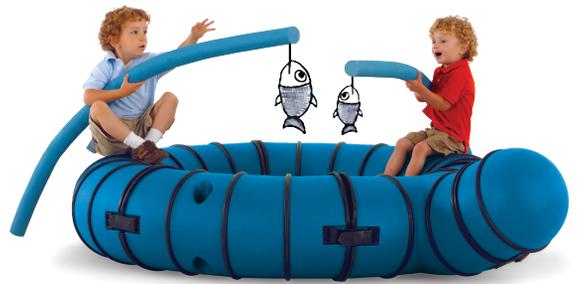




A PLAYCORE Company

Play systems powered by a child's imagination.



## Snug Play & Inclusion

**Snug Play** is an innovative playground system that promotes creative and social play. Its modular design lends itself well to inclusive play by enabling play to happen at different physical levels and allowing children to move and form the components to be optimally used. The components are large enough for many children to play together and incorporate many areas of physical, social, cognitive and sensory development.

Snug's unique design elements and social opportunities naturally fit into the philosophy of the National Lekotek Center and together can help promote inclusion of children with special needs into their family and community.

Snug Play can provide a means to inclusive play that is appropriate and effective for children who have disabilities and who are developing typically. Looking to the disability categories listed below, Snug Play can provide solutions to many of the playground issues children with disabilities may face.





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## Benefits of Snug by Disability Category

**Physical disabilities** All the different components of Snug are accessible from the ground. They are bold shapes with no intricate parts that would be difficult to manipulate for children with limited refined movements. The components are large and durable enabling caregivers to climb and support a child as necessary without the fear of the components giving under them.

**Cognitive disabilities** The open-ended nature of this modular playground system provides ample opportunity to incorporate fundamental learning, memory and sequencing skills into play. The large size and number of components enhance team building and problem solving opportunities. As children construct, they are learning properties of science and math, not from book knowledge, but real experience. Gradually add different elements to a child's repertoire of play to gently guide them to challenge their bodies and minds and progress to more advanced cognitive levels.

**Communicative disabilities** The open-ended nature of this playground system leads to imagination and creativity. It can be used as a stage for dramatic storytelling that helps develop expressive language, conversational turn taking and sequential order. Or the pieces can be moved to create imaginative landscape to act out storylines. Moving the individual structures requires two or more children which enhances cooperation and communication.

**Sensory disabilities** The moveable components provide children's bodies with heavy lifting opportunities to give whole body workouts. This heavy lifting provides proprioceptive input that is known to help children better focus and attend to a cognitive task presented after. The many textures of the components help children gather input and by verbally describing the texture can help to identify the various components. The colors of the individual components are bright and bold, yet not overwhelming and busy.

**Social/Emotional disabilities** There is no right or wrong way to play with Snug. It invokes curiosity and exploration without impressing rules and game play. Children can experiment in an emotionally safe environment with objects they can control and position. The Snug system helps present opportunities for children to work on social and emotional skill development. As they play, children can work together to solve problems, contribute to a group and practice leadership roles.

\* Information taken from the National Lekotek Center Report: "Effectiveness of Snug to Promote Inclusive Play," 2010

