



LHS-15

Playground teaches cultural diversity

The Peace Park playground in Janesville, Wisconsin (54,000), is designed to address the community’s decision to promote peace, unity, and diversity. A community playground committee, which involved a number of racial and ethnic groups, designed the playground, raised the \$175,000 needed to purchase the equipment, and coordinated the 1,000 volunteers who built the playground. Ideas for the playground were also solicited from children, who expressed their suggestions through drawings. The rubber surfacing on which the equipment sits says “peace, unity, and diversity.” The playground’s centerpiece is a four-story teepee painted in bright Native American colors. Inside the teepee are eight peace paintings representing Native Americans from eight different locations throughout the United States. The playground is also the site of a 50-foot peace pole with the words “May peace prevail on Earth.”

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