

PLAYGROUNDS*

in and around the First Connections catchment area

Boundless Playgrounds

Boundless playgrounds are built to be truly inclusive of all children and adults. Parents or children with limited mobility or other impairments can freely navigate around the structures and play areas. We are lucky to have two newly built boundless playgrounds in our area. Trying out one of these playgrounds can be a learning experience for all children.



WESTFORD: Ronan McElligott Memorial Playground, Williams Avenue at Edwards Beach

Directions: From Route 495 North, exit at Boston Road, Westford and go left toward the Center of town. Go right at the Common. Bear left where the road splits near Roudenbush Community Center. After going down the long hill out of the Center, you'll cross railroad tracks and the road will split again. Bear right onto Plain Road. Stay on Plain Road until you reach Williams Ave. (on left) before reaching Nabnasset Cntr.

SUDBURY: SMILE Sudbury Playground, 44 Fairbanks Road

Directions: This playground is located adjacent to the Fairbanks Community Center/Atkinson Pool. You can use the rest rooms in the Community Center when it is open. One area is geared toward ages 5-12, the other is for children 2-5. Unique double-wide slide so friends can slide side-by-side. Fairbanks Road begins at Route 27 and ends at Hudson Road in Sudbury



Traditional Playgrounds

ACTON: Elm Street Toddler Playground, 19 Elm St, Next to Douglas School, West Acton

Directions: From Rte.111 (Mass. Ave.) in West Acton take Spruce Street to right on Arlington, then left on Elm. From Rte. 27, take Hayward Rd (near police dept) to the end, then left on Arlington and Right on Elm St. Picnic area and playing fields nearby, located behind the tennis courts.



ACTON: Goward Field Playground, behind the Acton Memorial Library, 486 Main Street

Directions: From Rte. 27, take Woodbury Street, then turn right into the parking lots behind the Town Hall and Library. Rest rooms are available inside the library when open.

ACTON: Nara Park, 25 Ledge Rock Way, Acton (off Rte. 27) heading toward Chelmsford

Directions: From Rte. 27 heading toward Chelmsford, take left onto Ledge Rock Way. Fenced playground area. Beach use requires fee or pass. Picnic tables available, but can be reserved for 6 or more people, which takes precedence over visitors who just drop in to use them.

ACTON: Gardner Field, 550 Mass. Ave. (Rte. 111 section between Central St & Rte. 27), West Acton

Directions: Park along Mass. Ave and enter through the chain link fence gate. Shady. Across from Villageworks.

BEDFORD: Bedford Town Center Playground, Mudge Way (off Rte. 225/4, Great Road)

Directions: Mudge Way is off Great Road between the Fire Station and the intersection of Route 62. There is a fenced Tot Playground, and the library rest rooms are within walking distance when they are open. Plenty of parking. Shady.

BOXBOROUGH: Flerra Meadows Playground, 398 Stow Road

Directions from Route 111 heading away from West Acton, go left onto Stow Road. When you reach the intersection of Chester Road, you will see the playground entrance on your left. The playground is down a long driveway, at the back of the field. Port-a-Potties are available.

Directions from Route 111 in Boxborough, heading toward Acton, take a right onto Burroughs Road, and bear right onto Chester Road when Burroughs Road bears left. Flerra Meadows is on your left.

CARLISLE: Diment Park Toddler Playground, 160 Church Street (section between Rte. 225 and School Street)

Directions: The rotary in the center of Carlisle intersects roads from many towns, including Bedford, Billerica, Westford and Concord. To reach the playground, go up the School Street hill and then take a left onto Church Street. The playground will be on your right after the tennis courts. Shady. http://www.carlislema.gov/pages/carlislema_recreation/facilities



CONCORD: Emerson Playground, Corner of Stow & Everett St

Directions: This playground is located on the grounds of the Hunt Recreation Center. The playground is used in the mornings when Concord Recreation Dept. summer camps are in session. **Spay park** in summer.

WEST CONCORD: Percy Rideout Playground, 61 Laws Brook Rd

Directions: From the Concord Prison Rotary on Route 2, take Commonwealth Avenue to the stop sign. Go right onto Laws Brook Road. The playground and parking will be on your left.

CONCORD: Playscape at Ripley, 120 Meriam Road, www.ripleyplayscape.org

Directions: From Concord Center, take Route 62 toward Bedford, then go right at Bedford Road, and right again at Meriam Road. The Playscape at Ripley is a unique, integrative project that responds to the growing concern that children are spending less time playing outdoors and more time in front of a screen or at structured activities, thus missing out on outdoor play's many developmental benefits. Play area is located behind the buildings.



GROTON: Kids Incorporated Playground, Playground Road (Off Rte. 119)

Directions: Take Rte 119 toward Groton from Littleton Center, or get off Rte. 495 at the "Littleton Common" exit and head toward Groton. When you enter Groton Center, Lawrence Academy will be on your right. Just after the Groton Public Library, you will go left onto Broadmeadow Road, then left again at the "library" sign. Just past the library parking lot is a parking area for the playground.

HARVARD: Harvard Park at McCurdy Track, 46-63 Lancaster County Road (off Rte. 111)

Directions: Easily accessible from Route 2. Heading West, take exit 38B and go right at the end of the exit onto Ayer Road. Immediately after the Post Office, go left onto Lancaster County Road. The playground will be on your right, at the far end of the new track, after the Concord-Hillside office. Walking trails, restroom facilities.



LEXINGTON: Center Playground at the intersection of Parke Dr and Clark St

Directions: From Rte. 2 heading east onto Rte 2A (straight through the light where Rte. 2 curves to the right and heads uphill to Lincoln). You'll pass Hanscom AFB on the left. At the Minuteman Tech stop light, go left onto Mass. Ave., over the Rte. 128 overpass, downhill to a light. Go right onto Worthen Road. Pass by the Town Pools (left) and skating rink (right) and look for the playground structure on you left. Park on Worthen Road. Rest rooms available.

LITTLETON: Castle in the Trees, 300 King Street (Rte. 2A)

Directions from Rte. 495: Take exit 30 and take a right at the end of the exit, whether coming from North or South. Playground will be on your left, set back from the road, to the right of the tennis courts. If you see the Congregational Church on your left, you've gone too far.



Directions from Rte 2A in Acton: come into Littleton Center and go left at the lights on the Common. The playground will be on your right immediately after passing Masonic Temple. <http://www.castleinthetrees.org/> **Aidan's Playground** (above) is located at Castle in the Trees and is geared toward children aged 2-5.

MAYNARD: Reo Road Tot Lot Playground and Park

Directions: Coming from Rte. 27 in Acton, take a right onto Nason St. as you approach Maynard Center. Take a right onto Summer Street. Take another right onto Durant Avenue, then take your last right onto Reo Road.



MAYNARD: Coolidge Playground and Hill Slide

Directions: Take Elmwood Road off Parker Street (Rte. 27). This will be a left coming from Sudbury and a right coming from Concord or Acton. There is a parking lot on the corner of Elmwood and Bancroft Street.

STOW: Pine Bluffs Recreation Playground (off Rte. 62)

Directions: Heading west on Rte. 117, turn left onto Rte. 62 at the traffic light located in front of the Randall Library. Follow Rte. 62 for approximately ½ mile. After a sharp right curve in the road, take your next left onto Whitman Street (Honey Pot Hill Orchard sign) and go over the hill. At stop sign, go left onto Old Sudbury Road. Beach and playground are ½ mile on the right, at the back of the soccer field. Restrooms located in the beach house. Park near playground.

WESTFORD: Parker Village Playground, Carlisle Road (Rte. 225)

Directions: From the stop light intersection of Rte. 27 (Acton Rd) and 225 (Carlisle Rd) in Westford, continue on Rte. 225 West toward Westford. At the bottom of the hill (look for "Jack Walsh Field" sign) turn right into the parking lot. The playground is on the right side of the lot.

From Littleton: Take Rte. 110 from Littleton Center towards Westford. After the 99 Restaurant, take a right (opposite the post office) onto Concord Road. Go straight through the stop light intersection at Powers Rd. Continue on Rte. 225 until you pass Griffin Rd. on your left, then look for the parking lot entrance to Jack Walsh Field on your left.

BELMONT: Beaver Brook Reservation, Corner of Trapelo Rd and Mill Street

Tot Lot Playground, **spray park**, wading pool, and picnic area. Trails to walk, including to a waterfall, ponds, wetlands.

Directions: Take Route 2 to Winter Street, Belmont, left onto Concord Avenue, 100 yards ahead bear right onto Mill Street, entrance is on the right. (In the vicinity of McLean Hospital)



HUDSON: Cellucci Skate and Spray Park, 37-39 South St.

Playground, **splash pad**, gazebo pavilion and picnic area. Located 500 feet from the Assabet River Rail Trail. Open 9:00-7:00.

BILLERICA: Kids Konnection Playground, 11 Andover Road

Behind the O'Connor Hardware building, this is a local favorite of Bedford parents. Lots of shade and a variety of structures that aren't at many other local playgrounds.

BILLERICA: Manning State Forest Water Park. This park offers a small sprinkler park for children to enjoy. The ground is paved, so water shoes would help protect feet. There are also a lot of walking trails for exploring.

Directions: Rte 3 to exit 29 go onto rte 129 toward Billerica. After about ¾ of a mile on the left hand side, look for the brown gates to the park, and take a left into the parking lot. It's a State Park, so you can use your parking pass from Walden Pond if you have one!

*Playgrounds listed here are not located on school grounds and should, therefore, be available for use at all times. On summer mornings, Emerson Playground is used for camp programs.