

The Architect's Playspace

-by Ayana Klein

You might think that architects are supposed to design houses, but that is not all they do. It is the architect's job to create spaces that will benefit the people that use them. They design indoor and outdoor spaces, public spaces for people to work, play and shop. They even design gardens and natural spaces for people to live more sustainably and in harmony with the environment. Here are some examples of playspaces that blend beauty and the natural environment with fun.

VAC Library by Farming Architects is a large wooden climbing frame that uses solar-powered aquaponics to keep vegetables, koi carp and chickens in Hanoi, Vietnam. Kids can climb the structure and find hidden nooks to read and play in.



The Evans Tree House is located at a botanical garden in Arkansas. "It is intended to camouflage itself into the landscape and be of the ecology of the place organic, yet alive and mysterious in nature, purposefully inspiring children's imaginations about the forest,".



Hakone Open Air Museum

in Hakone by Japanese artist Toshiko Horiuchi-MacAdam is considered one of Japan's leading fiber artists, using knitting and crochet as the foundation for much of her work. She specializes in "creating large, interactive textile environments that function both as imaginative and vibrant explorations of color and form, at the same time as providing thrilling play environments."

