



DESIGNER NEWSLETTER

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Extended Reality Expo features OLE! Texas Project

“ I believe these advanced and latest tools will shape the way we teach higher education courses in the future. This exhibition creates an opportunity to show the Texas Tech community a glimpse of that future. ”

-MUNTAZAR MONSUR



Dr. Muntazar Monsur led an exhibition showcasing the use of mixed reality technology through XR projects including Virtual Reality (VR) headsets, Augmented Reality (AR), and Mixed Reality (MR). One of the projects allowed participants to experience the OLE! Texas site at the Child Development Research Center through a VR headset. The exhibit included 10 projects.

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OLE!TEXAS
OUTDOOR LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

*OLE! Texas is an initiative of the Texas Department of State Health Services in partnership with other state agencies, universities, and organizations across Texas. For more information and a full partner listing, visit dshs.texas.gov/ole.



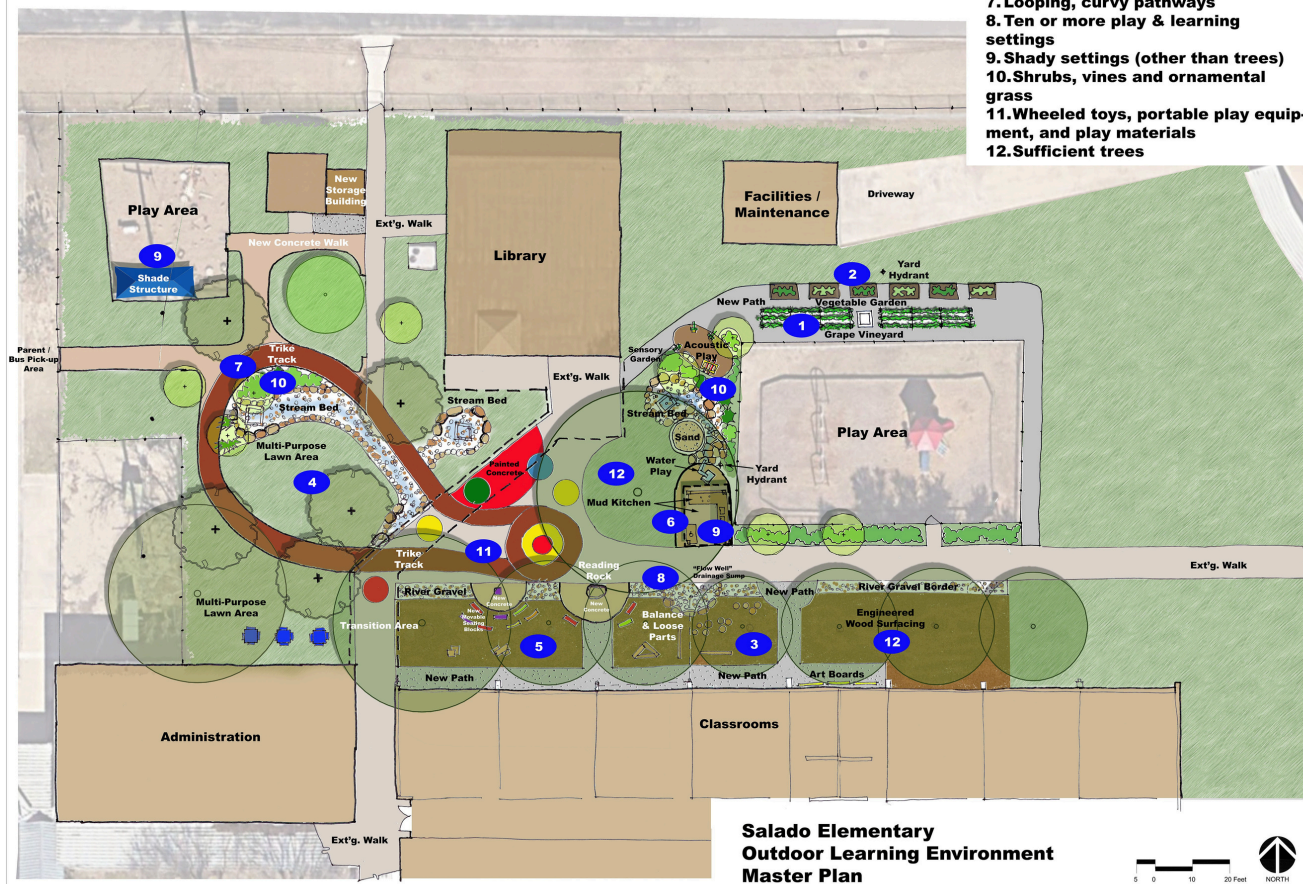
TEXAS TECH
UNIVERSITY





The Twelve Best Practice Indicators

1. Edible fruiting species
2. Designated vegetable garden
3. Support for gross motor activities
4. Multi-purpose lawn
5. Natural, loose materials
6. Enclosed outdoor storage and classroom
7. Looping, curvy pathways
8. Ten or more play & learning settings
9. Shady settings (other than trees)
10. Shrubs, vines and ornamental grass
11. Wheeled toys, portable play equipment, and play materials
12. Sufficient trees



**Salado Elementary
Outdoor Learning Environment
Master Plan**

REVISIONS	
No.	Description

REVISIONS	
No.	Description

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**ECISD -
Salado Elementary
Outdoor Learning Environment
Site Development Plans**

San Antonio, Texas 78215
7/10/2012

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DATE: 7/10/2012
DRAWN BY: LAD

**Outdoor Learning
Environment
Master Plan
MP-1**

New San Antonio OLE! Texas Project

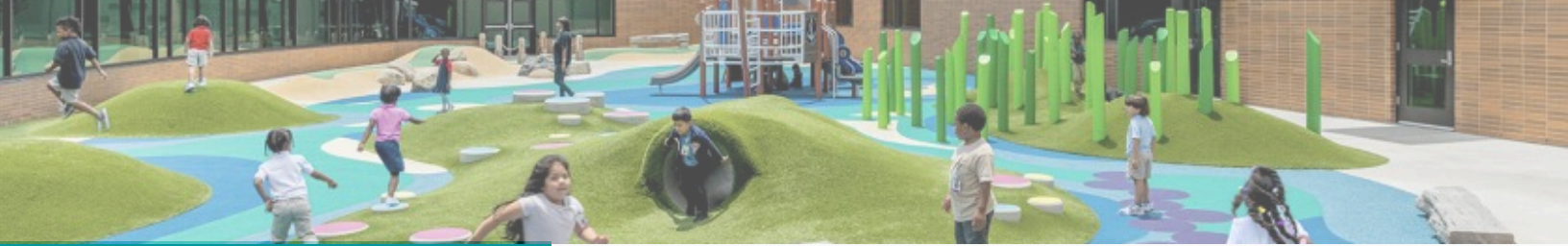
Larry Clark led a design workshop for the Salado Elementary School in San Antonio. The project meets best practices and incorporates unique features such as multi-purpose lawn, designated vegetable garden, wheeled toys, portable play equipment, and support for gross motor activities.

Texas A&M Students Design an Outdoor Learning Environment

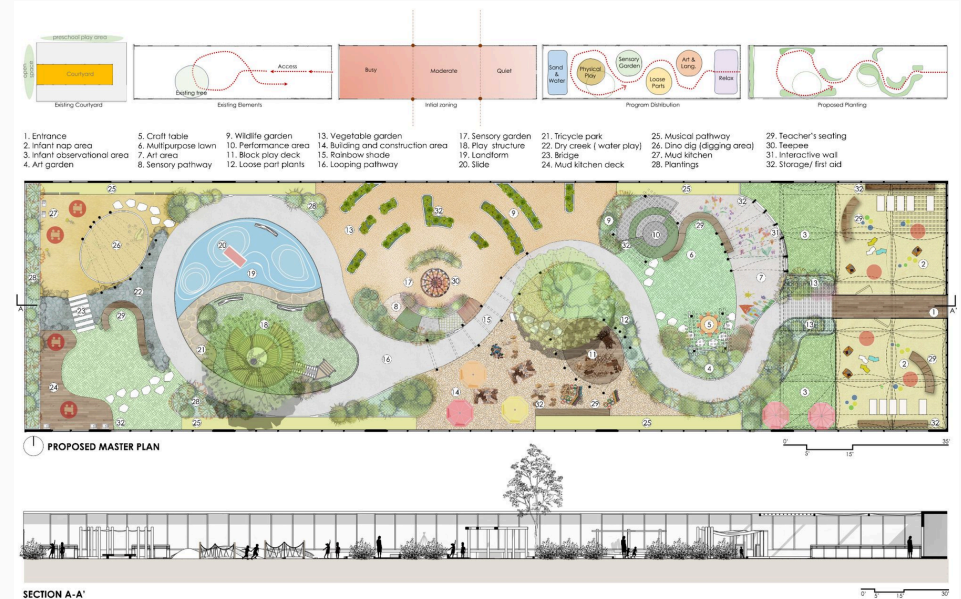
DESIGNED BY STUDENTS XIN XU AND JIALI LIU

Professor Kenneth Hurst guided an undergraduate studio and then led master's students in 2019 to conduct a final proposal that transformed into the construction of an outdoor play and learning environment for both children under 2 years old and preschool aged. These students, Xin Xu and Jiali, with the guidance of Professor Hurst, created and developed this outdoor learning environment at the Becky Gates Children's Center in College Station, Texas.





Texas Tech Students win Texas ASLA Competition



Students of the Landscape for Learning course offered at Texas Tech University have been awarded a Merit Award for the 2024 Texas ASLA Student Competition. Their competition entry demonstrates an elevated new

look of a nature playscape for children located in a semi-arid area. Congratulations to the following students and their professor Muntazar Monsur, PhD: Umme Haque, Danielle Craig, Zahid Hasan, Fariha Tasnim, Moyin Akinbobola, and J. Garrett Farrow.





OLE! Texas Designer Recognized with Texas ASLA Award

Congratulations to Trained OLE! Texas Designer, Dr. Kenneth Hurst, who was recognized with a Professional Merit Award from Texas ASLA. His work investigates the impact of universal design on children's use in outdoor learning environments despite age or disability status. He used behavior mapping in his recent publication in Landscape Journal.

For more information, visit the public publishing of this article

(<https://lj.uwpress.org/content/42/2/55>)

Upcoming OLE! Designer Training

There is one training option available to designers who are interested in joining the Trained OLE Designer Network: The OLE! Texas Designer Training Seminar offered by the Texas Tech Coalition for Natural Learning at Texas Tech University. Details for registration and dates are detailed below:

https://www.depts.ttu.edu/hs/coalition_for_natural_learning/Resources/training_registration.php

