

# Playtime



You are going to read about some of the things that the children at Green Park School did to change their playtimes and make them more fun.



The children put up a display in the entrance hall of their school to show visitors all the exciting changes that had been going on.

The Governors of our school gave us some money to spend on making the playground a more friendly place, where all the children can play happily.

They asked the whole school to decide together what they thought the best ideas would be for spending the money.

## Practice questions

A What is the name of the school? Tick **one**.

Greenfield

☐

Green Park

☐

Newtown

☐

Oldfield

☐

B What was the money given to the children for?

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## Making our new playground



- 1 Why did some children think playtime was boring?

Tick **one**.

They were tired.

☐

It was cold.

☐

There was nothing to do.

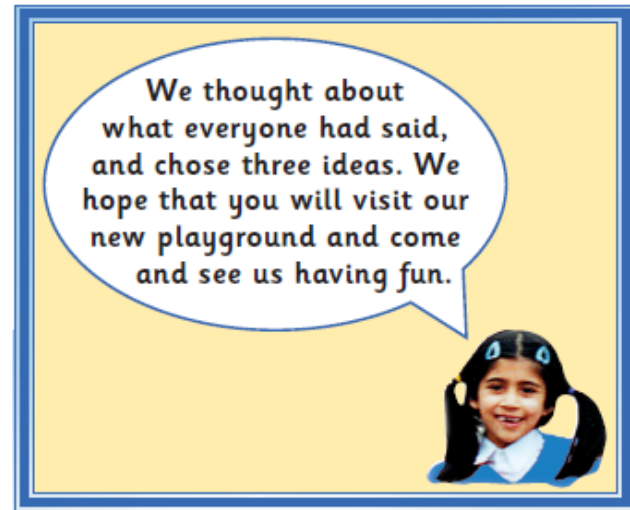
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There were lots of games to play.

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- 2 What did the bored children want?

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3 Why were children sometimes sad at playtime?

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This is the Friendship Bench. When somebody sits on the Friendship Bench, other children know that they are feeling lonely and sad, and come over to be friendly. This is what Dan said about it.

When I first started at this school I didn't know anybody. At playtime I sat on the Friendship Bench and Sarah, Baz and Tanya came over and asked me if I wanted to join in their game.



Now playtimes are fun because I have some friends to play with. The Friendship Bench is a good idea because it helps you to get to know people quickly.

4 Why did some children sit on the Friendship Bench?

Tick **one**.

They were hungry.

☐

They were waiting for a bus.

☐

They were lonely.

☐

They were tired.

☐

5 Does Dan like the Friendship Bench?

Yes

☐

No

☐

Why?

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We chose some equipment so that we could play new games.  
There are balls, hoops, beanbags and long skipping ropes.



Mrs Wood taught us rhymes  
for skipping. In this one,  
we all say the rhyme....

We say all the months in the  
year and each person has to  
jump in when we say the  
month that they were born in.  
Skipping is good exercise, and  
it's fun.

All in together now,  
Never mind the weather now,  
January, February, March,  
April, May, June, July.....

6 What equipment did the children choose?

Tick **four**.

bats

☐

balls

☐

hoops

☐

skitters

☐

beanbags

☐

skipping  
ropes

☐

7 In the skipping game, when do the children jump in?

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We did not change all of the playground, because children still like to play games like 'Catch' and football.

The older children think the giant draughts board is the best thing and they are teaching the younger children how to play.



Draughts is good because you can play in big teams and it gets exciting.



Under the trees we have a quiet corner with seats and tables. We can sit here and read or talk to our friends. Sometimes we make up adventures, then go and play them.

8 What did the older children help the younger children to do?

Tick **one**.

to play draughts ☐

to put their coats on ☐

to tie their laces ☐

to learn to swim ☐

9 What can the children do in the quiet corner?

Give **two** things.

1 \_\_\_\_\_

2 \_\_\_\_\_

Think about **all** you have read about Green Park School.

10 Draw lines to match up the boxes to show where you would go.

The first one has been done for you.

to play catch	the Friendship Bench
if you were lonely	the old part of the playground
to play in a big team	under the trees
to sit and read	the draughts board

11 Do you think the children at Green Park School have better playtimes now?

Yes ☐ No ☐

Why?

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