

Children and Their Use of Space: Fieldwork
this is a collation of the record of my fieldwork gathered from various different architectural workshops and studies involving children. It doesn't contain the hours of interviews with the children during the workshops, or any analysis of the data gathered so far, but does demonstrate the wide-reaching creativity of children when asked to consider their built environment.

Thea McMillan 21/03/12

Playground Design Workshop
as part of a real school building
project.

10-12 and 6-8 year olds



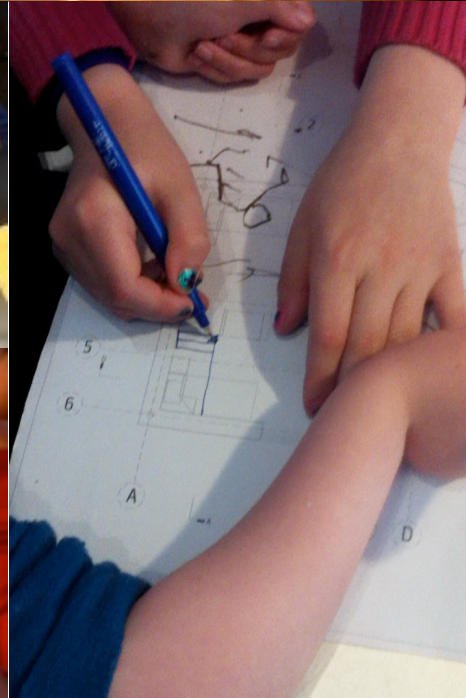
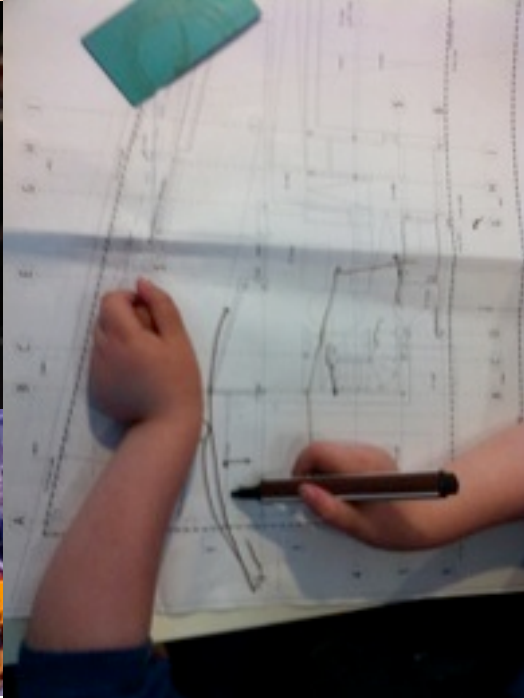
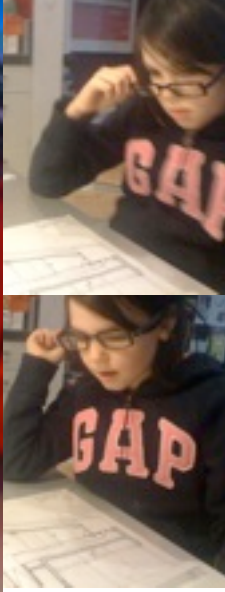
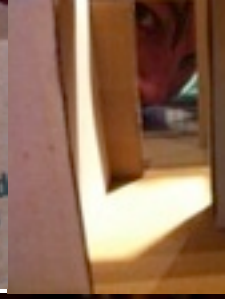
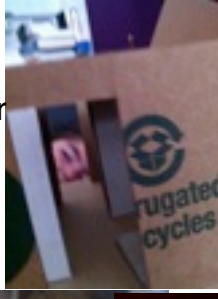
Playground Design Workshop
fifteen 10-12 year olds:

- Imagine the bell has just rung for playtime
- take a toy each and imagine you are your character at playtime
- take a large piece of card and make a playground for your group of toys
- different materials added at fifteen minute intervals
- describe your playground to the other group
- future session: build part of the playground at large scale



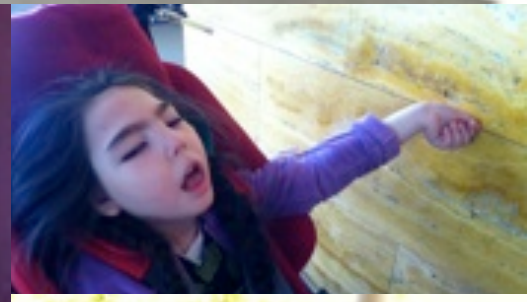
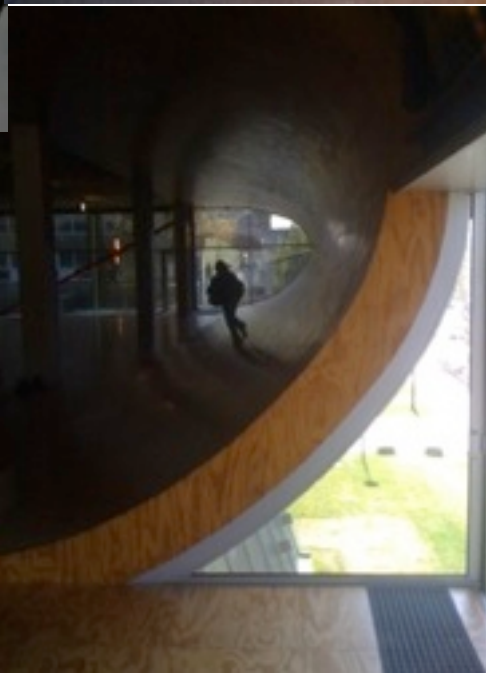
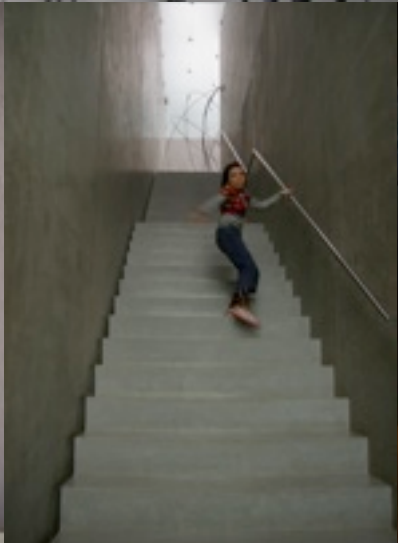


family design for an accessible home
this is a live building project for a barrier free home for a little girl and her family. The children have been involved in all design, and this has been documented in pictures, models and words

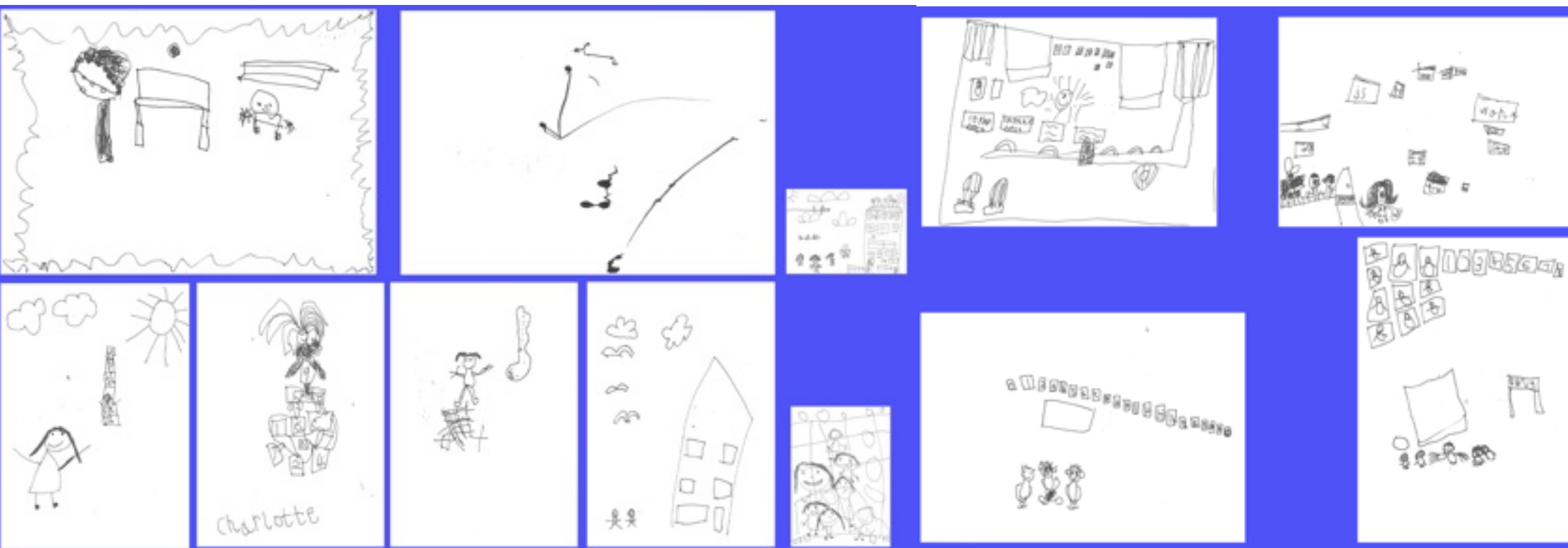




Observing children's use of space



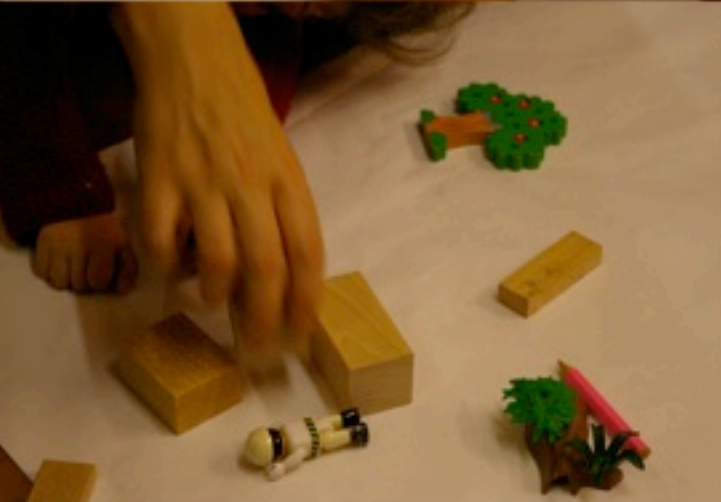
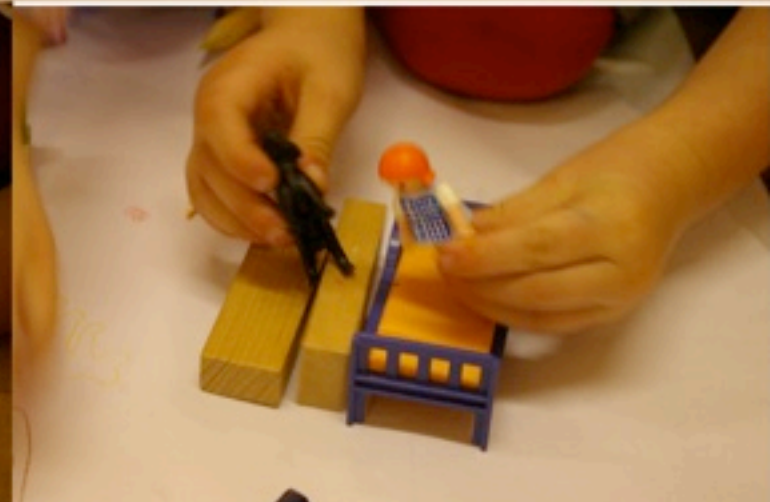
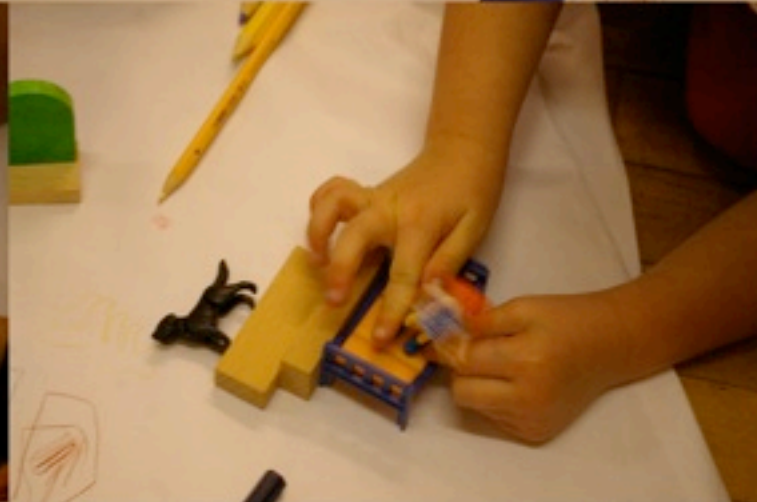
Towerbank drawing



An ongoing project following young children's developing understanding of their school environment a regular group of 5-6 year olds were asked to draw:

- their school
- their favourite place in school
- the playground
- a place they would like to see in the school
- a tour of the school, led by the children





Workshop: not well.

3-5 year olds:

- what would you like to look at when you are unwell?
- where would you like to be when you feel unwell?



Den building: outdoors
2-12 year olds





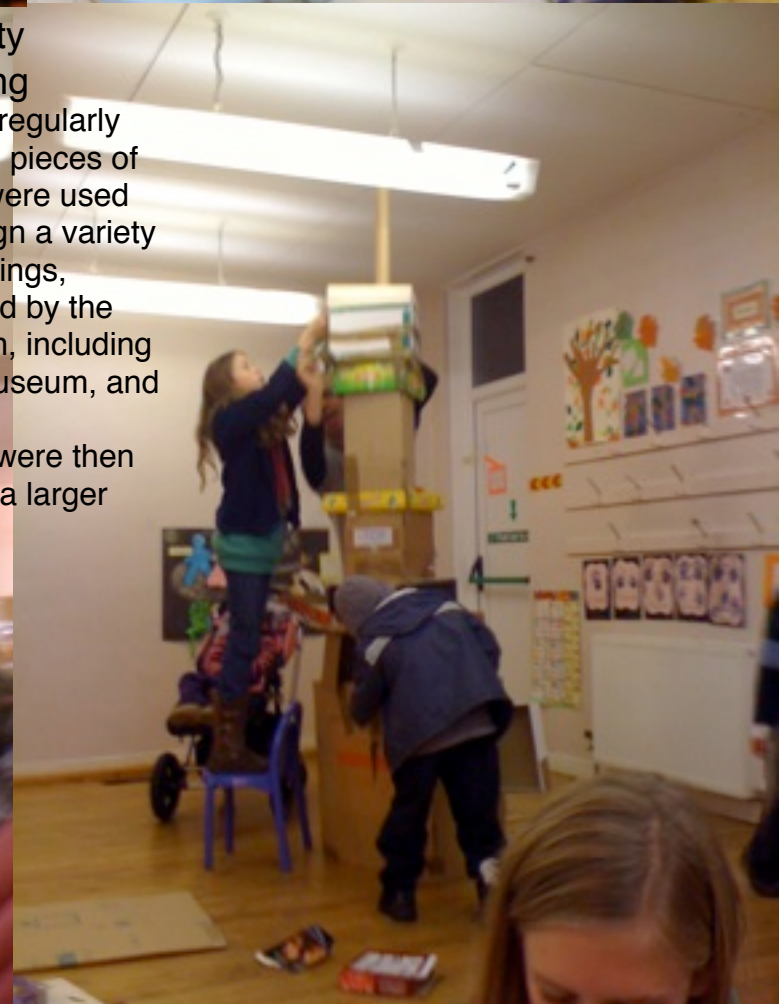
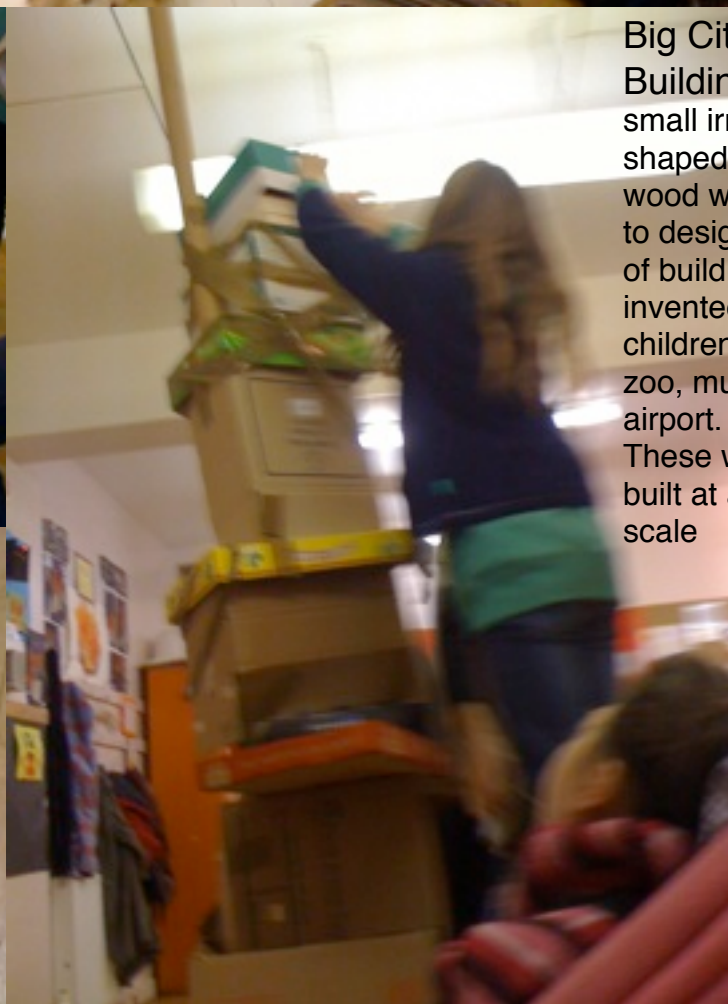
Den building: indoors
5-7 year olds built and
used dens, then
described their dens to
their peers.





group urban design game
10-12 year olds designing with
given wooden blocks / buildings,
paper and pens
one group was given lots of
different wooden buildings, mostly
monuments or public buildings,
and the other group was given
just blocks of flats, tall and wide.
They were each asked to build a
city.
After a while they started trying to
swap. During the session various
other objects were shared,
including public transport (boats,
aeroplanes, trains and cars)
pens and drawing were used to
knit everything together.
Finally they took parts of their
urban design and built them at a
larger scale.





Big City Building
small irregularly shaped pieces of wood were used to design a variety of buildings, invented by the children, including zoo, museum, and airport. These were then built at a larger scale



House for a Toy

