

Reference Parks

- **Amelia Earhart Park**
- **Biscayne Shores & Gardens Park**
- **Camp Matecumbe Park**
- **Country Lake Park**
- **Forest Lakes Park**
- **King's Meadow Park**

Understanding the nature-based playgrounds that have already been created by MDPROS is an important element in designing new ones. At the time that this Design Criteria was created, there were eight playgrounds that had been completed and many more in the works. Visiting some of these playgrounds is recommended to designers to get a feel for the spaces and equipment used. The playgrounds shown here were created prior to these guidelines, but incorporate many of the ideas and goals laid out in this book. Note that the designing of these parks has been an evolution, and there are some elements within these parks that the Department has chosen not to continue using for a variety of different reasons. The Technical Manual gives clearer direction as to what the Department has decided to continue implementing. These parks are shown here as a loose reference to the feel and look that the County is aspiring to.



Camp Matecumbe

Amelia Earhart

Amelia Earhart Park located at 401 E 65th St, Hialeah is home to Tom Sawyer’s Play Island constructed in 2015. This was the first nature-based playground in Miami-Dade County Parks and is the largest in the system at 7,500 sf. This playground is located on an actual island within a lake in the park. A wooden bridge is used to access the park and the entry takes you through a man-made cave that opens onto the playground. Many artificial rock formations were created to create the atmosphere, with EWF and poured in place brown rubber used for the flooring. The equipment is from the Landscape Structures Nature Inspired Play line in browns and greens. There’s also a rock climber, with embedded plant and animal fossils; mushroom steppers; leaf balance boards; a log balance beam; acorn seats; a sand play station with sifters; slides; bead and alphabet panels; bongos, and other musical instruments to play. The playground is enclosed with wood fencing to keep children from the water. There are a number of existing live oak trees for shade. Some concrete seat walls enclose areas of play and blend with the boulders.



BISCAYNE SHORES AND GARDENS

This park is located at 11525 NE 14th Ave, Miami . The playground was a new addition to the park in 2018 and was created under the existing canopy on the site. This is a local park with the only other amenities being a picnic shelter and some scattered picnic tables, and only street parking available. This park uses Engineered Wood Fiber contained by a concrete band for it's surfacing. The equipment is KOMPAN and includes a climbing structure, a hill mounted slide, several bobble riders, swings, and some reclaimed wood logs climbers. The furnishings are a mix of Landscape Forms and cut limestone blocks.



REFERENCE PARKS | Biscayne Shores and Gardens

CAMP MATECUMBE

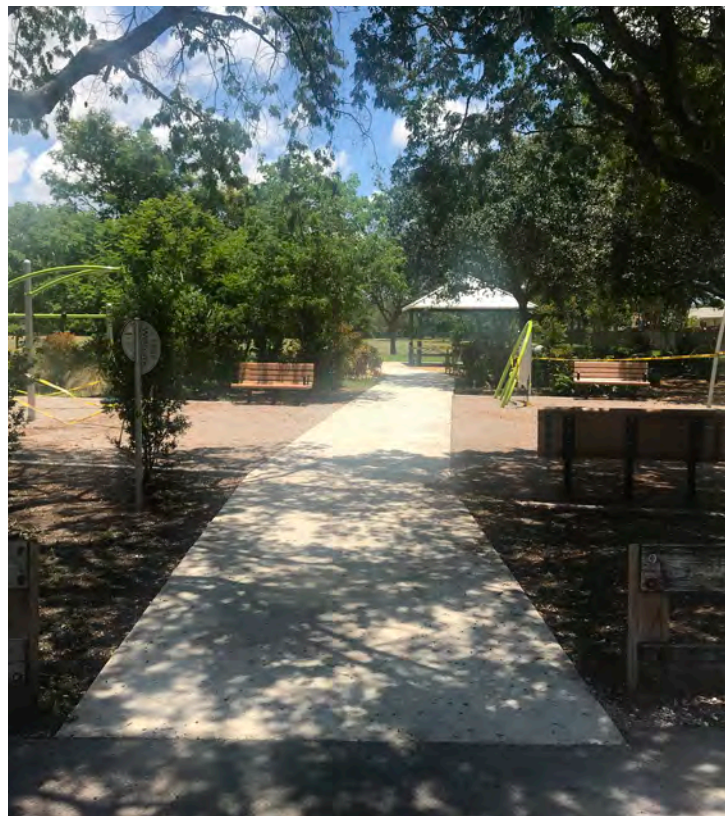
The Camp Matecumbe Park located at 13841 SW 120th St, Miami sits beside one of the last protected Pine Rocklands in the County. The Playground was a new addition to the park in 2020, and centers around a large hill that was constructed and planted with Pine Rockland plantings. The mound houses a large slide that is flanked by embedded river rocks and limestone boulder steps. This park uses Engineered Wood Fiber contained by a concrete band for it's surfacing. The equipment is KOMPAN primarily with a few musical items by PLAYCORE. The equipment includes: A large climbing structure, a playhouse for 2-5 year-olds, Swings, Musical Chimes and drums, reclaimed wood logs climbers, and agility climbers. The furnishings are a mix of Landscape Forms and cut limestone blocks.



REFERENCE PARKS | Camp Matecumbe

COUNTRY LAKE PARK

This park is located at 19525 NW 87th Ave, Hialeah. The playground was created in 2017 to replace an outdated playground and uses the same location, but spread out to add elements under nearby trees. This park uses Engineered Wood Fiber contained by a concrete band for it's surfacing with some mulch paths with metal edging. The equipment is Landscape Structures and includes a climbing structure with slide, swings, a log climber, acorn seats and a sandbox. The furnishings are Landscape Structures Recycled Polyethylene Plank benches.



REFERENCE PARKS | Country Lake Park

FOREST LAKES PARK

This park is located at 16351 SW 99TH St. Miami. The playground was created to replace an outdated playground and uses the same location. This park uses Engineered Wood Fiber contained by a concrete band for it's surfacing. The equipment is Landscape Structures and includes a climbing structure with slide, swings, and musical elements. The furnishings are from Du Mor inc.



REFERENCE PARKS | Forest Lakes Park

KING’S MEADOW PARK

This park is located at 9900 SW 142ND Ave. Miami The playground was created in 2017 to replace an outdated playground and uses the same location, but spread out to add elements under nearby trees. This park uses a combination of poured-in-place rubber and Engineered Wood Fiber contained by a concrete band for it’s surfacing. The equipment is Landscape Structures and includes a climbing structure, a smaller structure with a slide, swings, a small spinner, a xylophone, acorn seats and a sandbox. The furnishings are Landscape Structures Recycled Polyethylene Plank benches.

