

The more we get together

One of the National Museum's key exhibitions for the year takes the public on a retrospective and prospective journey through four sections which encapsulate the development of playgrounds in Singapore.

Singapore's early playgrounds (1920s to 1960s)

In the early 1900s, designated playgrounds were few and far between. The first dedicated public playground was built in 1928 on a plot of municipal land in Dhoby Ghaut (below).



Playing in the neighbourhood: HDB playgrounds (1970 to 1993)

This period saw a flourishing of playground styles and forms when HDB designed and built its own playgrounds.



Making fun and safe playgrounds a business: The rise of Singapore's proprietary playgrounds (1990s to present)

- In 1999, Singapore's safety standard for playgrounds, SS457, was written, providing a clear framework for all playgrounds here. This led to some visible changes to Singapore's playgrounds, namely the introduction of rubber flooring to cushion any falls.
- Innovative designs were also put forth. They include a space net at Pasir Ris Park playground (left).

Our playgrounds, our future (present to 2030)

This section features an installation developed in partnership with the Singapore University of Technology and Design which allows the public to imagine and build their own ideal playground.

