

Architect's Comment

RICH PLACES OF LEARNING - CHILD DIRECTED –  
TEACHER EFFICIENT

Compact

Economical

The children are exposed to a range of spatial experiences:-

The classroom is a formal, focussed and disciplined environment.

The walkway is extended to create a covered play area.

Curved screen walls provided an intimate and safe space for close teacher / child interaction, while at the same time providing protection from the elements.

Broad steps that lead down into the garden are a platform for extrovert behaviour, play and theatre - amphitheatre

Beyond the confines of the building, the indigenous forest with structured seating is an adventurous classroom in the wilds.

These buildings are designed to take the relevance of architects and architecture beyond the normal picture book / poster boy appeal.

Economical use of resources; place making; and most of all, provide simple spatial experiences for children who live in boxes.

Footnote

*4 Early Learning Centres were built at average cost of R1.5m each.*

*Over the next 20 years that translates to a cost of R1875 per child per year, to properly house a child in a facility that for nearly all, will be their first interaction with a carefully designed environment.*

FOR SUCH A SMALL COST, WE CANNOT AFFORD NOT TO BUILD MORE.