

1. Are there any height or weight restrictions for play structures due to rooftop load capacity?

The height limitation is 33' due to a cantilevered roof. For load capacity see answer to question #2

2. Can you provide structural drawings of the rooftop terrace to understand engineering constraints?

Drawings can be downloaded:

KidSpace Play area marked on "BULL 278 LP-101.pdf"

[original plans](#)

3. Will the contractor need to coordinate with other trades (e.g. electrical, plumbing, fire safety)?

Yes, the contractor is responsible for managing the subcontractors and their staff.

Design & Installation Considerations

4. Is there a preferred design aesthetic or color scheme to align with the existing KidSpace exhibit?

The aesthetic does not need to align with the existing KidSpace exhibit. The theme should support the natural world, with the use of organic designs of flowers, plants and insects which complement our exterior gardens.

a. Should the playscape accommodate sensory-friendly features for children with disabilities?

Yes, the playscape should incorporate sensory elements to adequately engage children with disabilities, ensuring an inclusive play experience.

b. What level of interactive elements (e.g., sound, motion, water play) is expected in the final design?

Because it is a roof garden and a seasonal playscape, we do not want to create a large water play area in the final design due to the temperatures in early Spring and late Fall. We are seeking elements that incorporate cooperative play, critical thinking skills, and social interactions while building motor skills, balance, and coordination. We are looking for a high level of interactive elements in the design.

5. Will the installation require special permits or approvals from city/state authorities?

Yes, the work at the Connecticut Science Center needs to be permitted and approved by the Connecticut State Building inspector and the Connecticut State Fire Marshal.

6. What restrictions are in place for working hours and access to the rooftop area during installation?

Work can be completed 7 days a week. The building hours, with staff approval, are 7AM – 6PM daily. Work outside these hours can potentially be accommodated.

Materials, equipment and machinery for the area can be accessed in three ways.

- A public park and walkway, managed by Riverfront Recapture and in coordination with the Connecticut Science Center staff, allows for deliveries by truck. All deliveries must be scheduled and secured through the Science Center and approved by Riverfront Recapture for size and weight.
- A crane can be used from the Science Center's loading dock to the exterior playscape area.
- Materials can be brought in via the Science Center loading dock with access to the freight elevator to the Lobby/playscape Level.

Proposal Submission & Selection Process

1. What specific qualifications or past projects will make a bidder stand out in the evaluation process?

We are looking for a creative design team, with expertise in the construction and installation of playscapes or exterior park areas, who incorporates original sitework and unique elements for early learners. Maximization of the area will be a priority.

2. How will proposals be scored, and what weight is given to technical ability vs. cost?

All proposals will be reviewed by a cross-functional team and evaluated for adherence to the budget, diversity of interactives, effective use of space, play elements that support creative play for children ages 2-7 years. Expertise in rooftop and park installations is a plus.

Does a proposal size of 8.5x11 work for you?

Yes, a 8.5” by 11” proposal is fine.

How much of the play pad area are you envisioning to be custom exhibitry vs. off-the-shelf playground elements?

We envision custom exhibitry and off-the-shelf elements to be approximately 30-40% original design and 60-70% off-the-shelf.

Will this experience be open during all seasons?

We anticipate that the playscape will open from early April through late October.

Do you have existing partnerships with outside contractors working on engineering of this space?

We are not working with, or in partnership, with a contractor. We have done a feasibility and acoustical study of the space and have an updated waterproofing membrane inspection.

Just to clarify, does the scope within this proposal include each of the following?

- **Additional sound mitigation beyond exhibit/play structures/graphics?**
 - Yes, our goal is to reduce the sound coming from the 2 intersecting highways that run behind the Science Center.
- **Railing wall (if so, what is the rough length?)/acoustic fencing**
 - The railing/acoustic wall is 80'-100' depending on the defined area.
- **Rooftop membrane**
 - Yes, this is included in the scope.
- **Electrical and mechanical work**
 - Yes, this is included in the scope.
- **Landscaping**
 - Yes, this is included in the scope.
- **Plumbing (is this expected?)**
 - Yes, may be included, depending on the final design.