



Miracle

SENSORY
PANELS





**Everyone
can explore
their sense
of fun here.**



WHAT IS SENSORY PLAY?

Sensory play stimulates one or more of a child's senses—sight, smell, hearing, taste, and touch.

Sensory panels have colorful, translucent features that are enjoyable for everyone, but are particularly beneficial for individuals on the autism spectrum and those with ADD/ADHD. Parents and caregivers can see inside the maze at all times and are welcome to join their kids for social interaction and intergenerational play.

Watch our Sensory Panel videos to learn more!

Miracle-Recreation.com/videos





SENSORY EXPERIENCES



CUSTOMIZABLE LAYOUT



INTERGENERATIONAL PLAY



COLORFUL PANELS



SOCIAL INTERACTION




VISUAL PLAY

WHY IS SENSORY PLAY IMPORTANT?

Sensory Panels are fun for everyone, and they're especially ideal for children who might not appear to have a disability. Children with sensory impairments such as autism spectrum disorder, ADHD, blindness, and hearing impairments have different needs on the playground — needs that are currently not being met. For example:

- Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) is evaluated on a continuum, meaning children can have mild, moderate, or severe autism. Many children with ASD have a difficult time making friends, understanding their own emotions and the emotions of others, becoming engaged with toys and other materials, and tend to seek out items that meet their heightened sensory needs. The Sensory Panels' colors and textures provide a sensory experience that children on the autism spectrum enjoy.
- Children with hearing and visual impairments tend to have a more sensitive sense of touch, and the textures of the Sensory Panels enable these children to feel their way through the maze and explore at their own pace.

Of all children with disabilities, 30% have sensory disabilities, compared to 0.8% with orthopedic disabilities.



ONE out of every
diagnosed with
disorder.

Source: <https://www.autismspeaks.org/autism-facts-and-figures>

FEATURES & BENEFITS

- Developed by a child development expert to meet the play needs of all abilities.
- Design your own layout by choosing the style, number, and configuration of panels that work best for your space and budget.
- Optional surfacing can be added to create even more imaginative play environments, while the colorful panels provide a work of art for your playground.
- Configure panels to create quiet, cozy spaces that provide comfort for those overstimulated by noise or activity.
- Create a play experience that's ideal for all ages.
- Sensory Panels are ground-level pieces of equipment, allowing parents, grandparents, and adults with disabilities to participate in play with their children.
- Use Sensory Panels as a maze, entrance, on a structure and more!



**59 children is
autism spectrum**

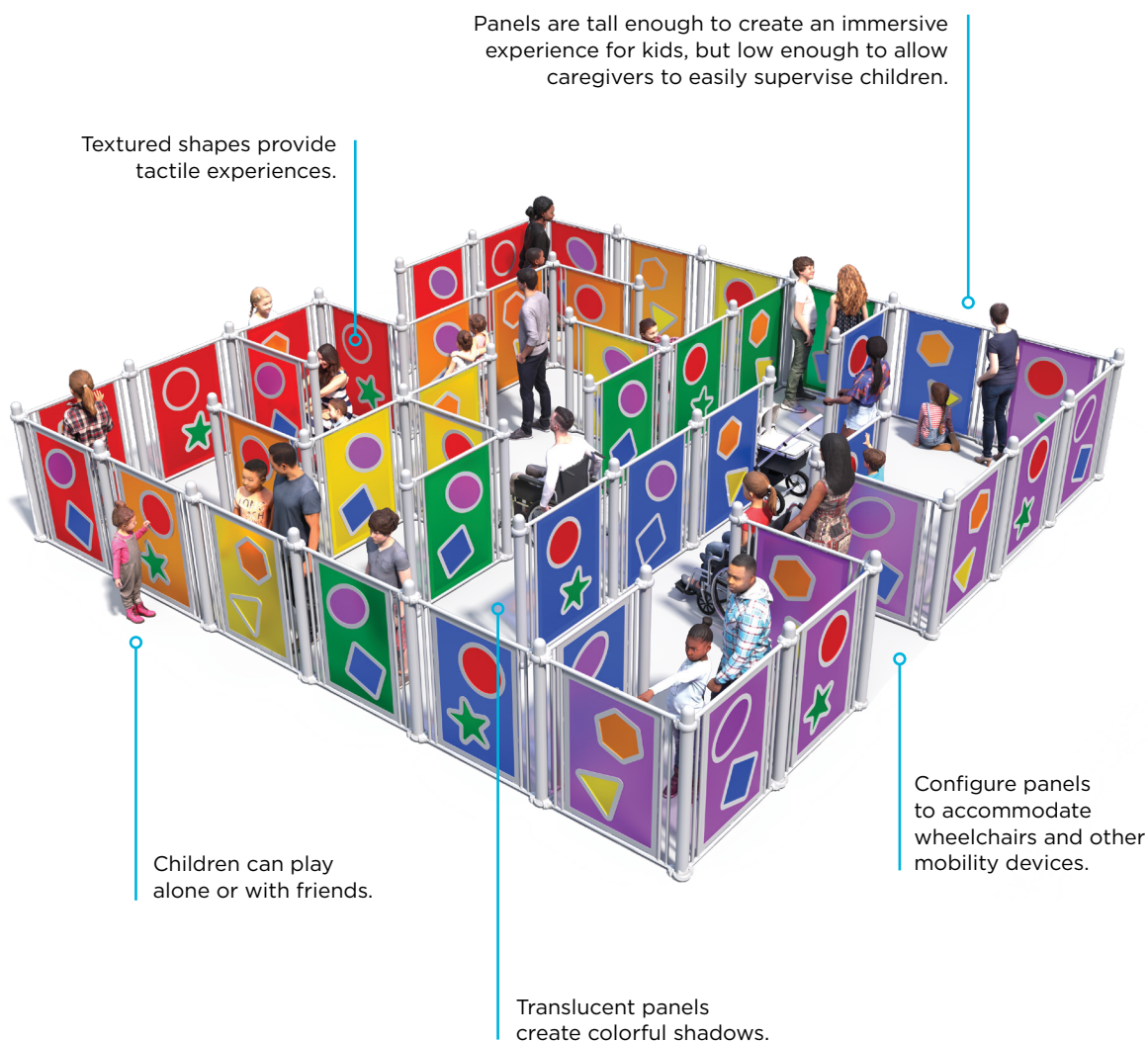


Creating
SENSATIONAL
Experiences

WHY SENSORY PANELS

Sensory Panels address the gap that caregivers, teachers, and special education professionals perceive in current playground equipment. Sensory Panels were developed to ensure that children with sensory impairments have playground equipment that encourages them to play, interact with peers and adults, and bring them in closer proximity to other kids.

Prior observational research demonstrates that children with sensory impairments tend to avoid playground equipment, walk the perimeter of the playground, and don't socially interact with others while on the playground. Sensory Panels break this pattern of behavior.





An Interview with the Expert

DR. TINA STANTON- CHAPMAN, PH.D.

Creator of the Sensory Panels



Dr. Tina Stanton-Chapman, Ph.D., creator of the Sensory Panels, is Associate Director of the Early Childhood Education and Human Development program at the University of Cincinnati. Dr. Stanton is Associate Editor of the Journal of Early Intervention and the Journal of Remedial and Special Education and has authored articles in more than 50 top early childhood and special education journals.

**Dr. Tina Stanton-Chapman
gives us the inside scoop
behind the Sensory Panels**



What inspired you to design the Sensory Panels?

A lot of my prior work involved teaching kids with sensory disabilities how to interact with their peers. Everything would go well in the classroom, but as soon as they went outside they forgot the skills we worked on. They would wander around the playground or walk the perimeter, but they wouldn't get involved. It became clear to me that these kids needed playground equipment that addresses their needs.

What went into the development of the Sensory Panels?

We interviewed teachers, preschool directors, occupational therapists, physical therapists, counselors, and principals to get their input. We wanted the design to address the needs of kids with sensory disabilities, not just physical disabilities, without looking like it was for kids with special needs.

What are the key features of the Sensory Panels?

The key features are the different colored panels and the textures that pop out. They give kids with sensory needs the tactile and visual experiences they desire, helping to improve social-emotional development across all ages.

Can everyone enjoy the Sensory Panels, or are they only for kids with sensory needs?

Everyone enjoys them! We're finding that parents and grandparents, even those who have disabilities, are able to interact with the panels with their kids and have a good time. We've heard from several who say, "This is the first time I've been able to play with my child on the playground."

What benefits have you seen from the Sensory Panels?

They help to build relationships not just between kids, but between parents and their children, and teachers and their students. The amount of joy that this equipment has brought to the community has been exceptional. It's one of the first things that parents and teachers highlight when they talk about what they like at the park.



Work with the experts on inclusive play.

Each local Miracle representative is required to complete training in ADA and accessibility standards and guidelines, the Five Fundamentals of Playgrounds for All, playground surfacing safety requirements, universal design, and understanding the needs of people with disabilities.

For more information, contact your local Miracle representative or visit Miracle-Recreation.com

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