

POLITECNICO DI TORINO
Master of Science in Sustainable Architecture
Honors theses

ARKITETTIAMO sustainable Fossano. A participated workshop with children

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The intent of this work is the approach, through an educational project, to the crisis of urban contemporary model, which points to the activation and enhancement of critical capability, communication and social skills of children and also their ability design and employment: is the need to 'do things' playing.

You can 'play' planning, keeping alive the places of social life, working together for critical and solutions to transform, retrieve and create safe walkways, make livable spaces for recreation that today are thought as limited and geometric portions in a large space: the city.

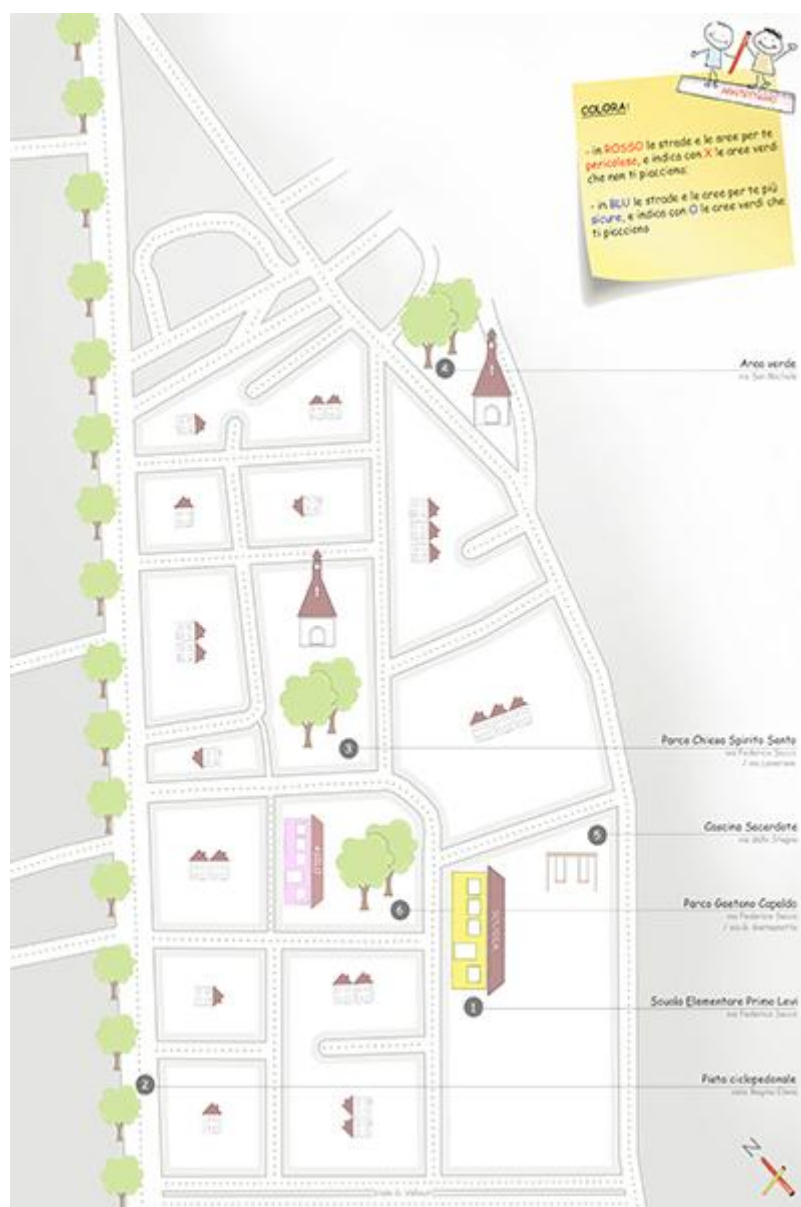
We strongly believe that this thesis can be a starting point to begin an urban laboratory in collaboration with local government, Fossano's schools and the contribution of all persons. It will be able to guarantee children's right for a livable city.

A winning strategy would be to promote the view that a child-friendly city is a place where all people would be better.

It was examined the study of children's environmental perception, knowledge of urban places, use of infant's public spaces, perception of urban security, perception of the conflict between the needs of children and adults and the proposal for urban's redesign. This study showed us some problems of contemporary city, for example Fossano. Discomforts are felt by the most vulnerable social groups such as children, elders and disabled. We will understand what conditions of unwell and violations, which they are sometimes victims, in a society that has played everywhere an adult-centered model.

We felt responsible both as citizens and as future architects. The architecture must benefit from unitary activity that considers urban environment as a place of a participation's game. It is essential to increase awareness of social and political responsibility for the degradation of the environment, air quality and community life in different urban contexts.

The methodology provides for the direct involvement of children in the fifth grade of Primo Levi's school in Fossano, who were asked to answer some questions. With them we also carried out a series of activities designed to help us for understand the problems, weaknesses and improvements that we can make out of some areas and for understand what are spaces that are more frequent, insecure areas and lack of urban enjoyment.



The map of the district Borgo Nuovo used during inspection activities with the students

The urban laboratory was started as an experiment and entitled "Arkitettiamo" in order to make an long lasting, able to work for a new philosophy of government of the city, taking children as a parameter of needs of all citizens. Not so a greater effort to increase the resources and services for children, but for a different and better city for all people, so that children can experience to be autonomous citizens and participants. Students who participated to do this activities questioned, in particular, the area Borgo Nuovo surrounding their school, taking into consideration green areas, cycle tracks and streets that run through every day to go in their institute. It is located an area that could be used as a public park and school garden of Primo Levi.



The garden Gaetano Capaldo, Via Federico Sacco, Fossano (CN), located in front of the Primo Levi's school and subject of redesign by children

Through this research, have emerged considerations and interesting ideas from which to start for the participatory design of this green space, located in front of the school.

Elementi rappresentati nei disegni dei bambini		Frequenza
PRATO	Verde	50
VEGETAZIONE	Vegetazione	44
	Nessuna vegetazione	6
AREE	Aree diversificate	36
	Nessuna diversificazione	14
PROTAGONISTI	Nessuno	45
	Bambini	5
RECINZIONE	Assenza di recinzioni	20
	Recinzione naturale	14
	Recinzione artificiale	11
	Recinzione artificiale e naturale	5
TIPO DI ATTREZZATURA	Attrezzatura tradizionale	10
	Attrezzatura non tradizionale	5
	Attrezzatura tradizionale e non	35
TIPO DI PAVIMENTO	Pavimentazione colorata	34
	Nessuna pavimentazione	16

Features shown in the design drawings made by children during the last activities in an example table

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