



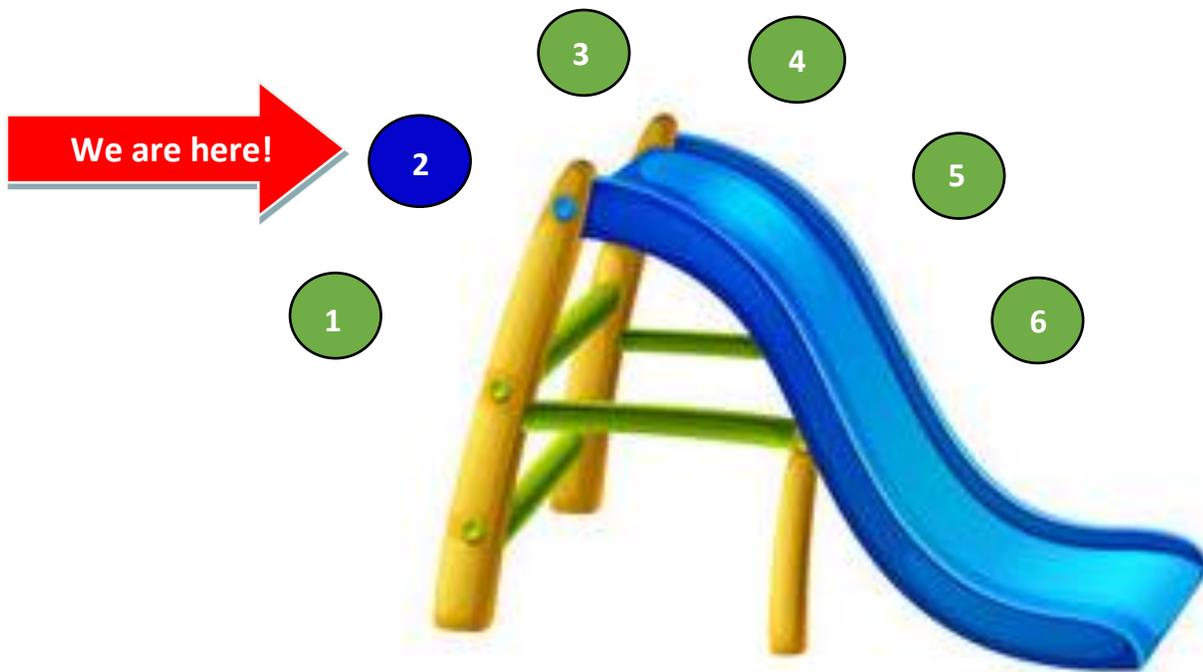
Incorporated June 2003

# District of Lantzville Community Input Survey

Survey closed March 13, 2018

## 2018 Huddlestone Park Playground Replacement Project

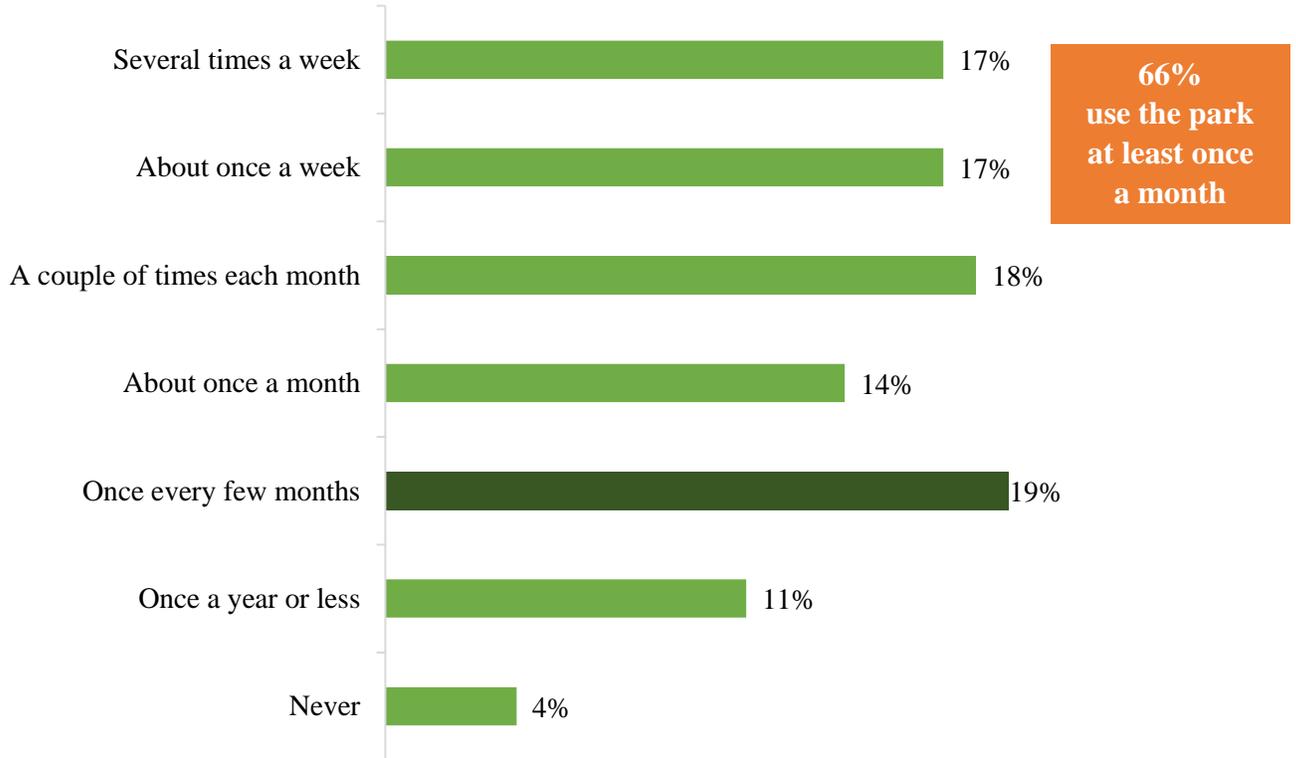
### ***SURVEY RESULTS***



**1. On average, how often do you visit Huddlestone Park?** *Select one*

Park use is fairly regular, with over half using the park once a month or more and 19% using the park once every few months.

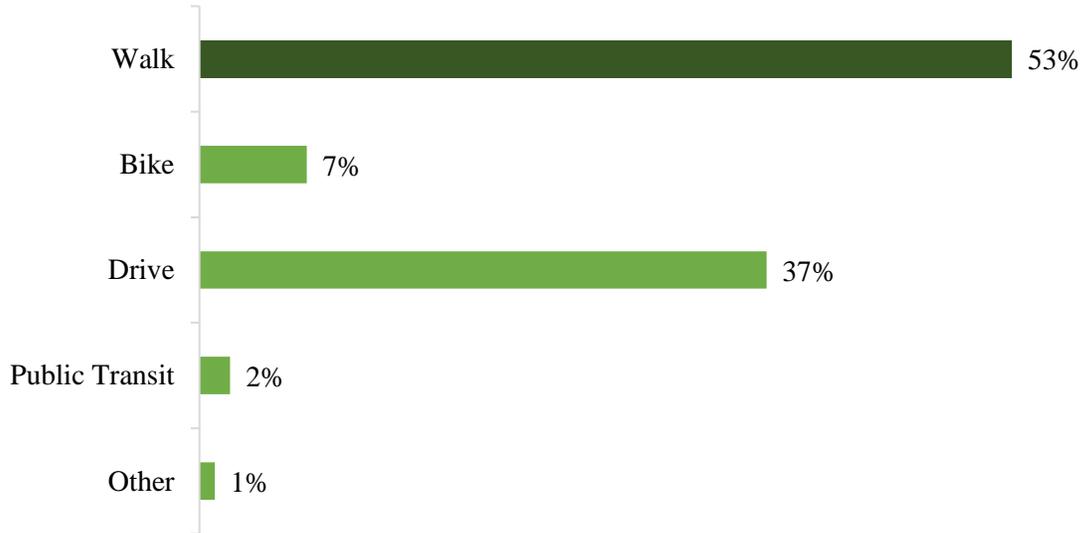
Only 4% of respondents say they never use Huddlestone Park.



Base: All respondents (n= 111)

**2. What's the main way you generally get to Huddlestone Park?** *Select one*

The greatest number of respondents walk to the park (53%), suggesting that users tend to be in close proximity.

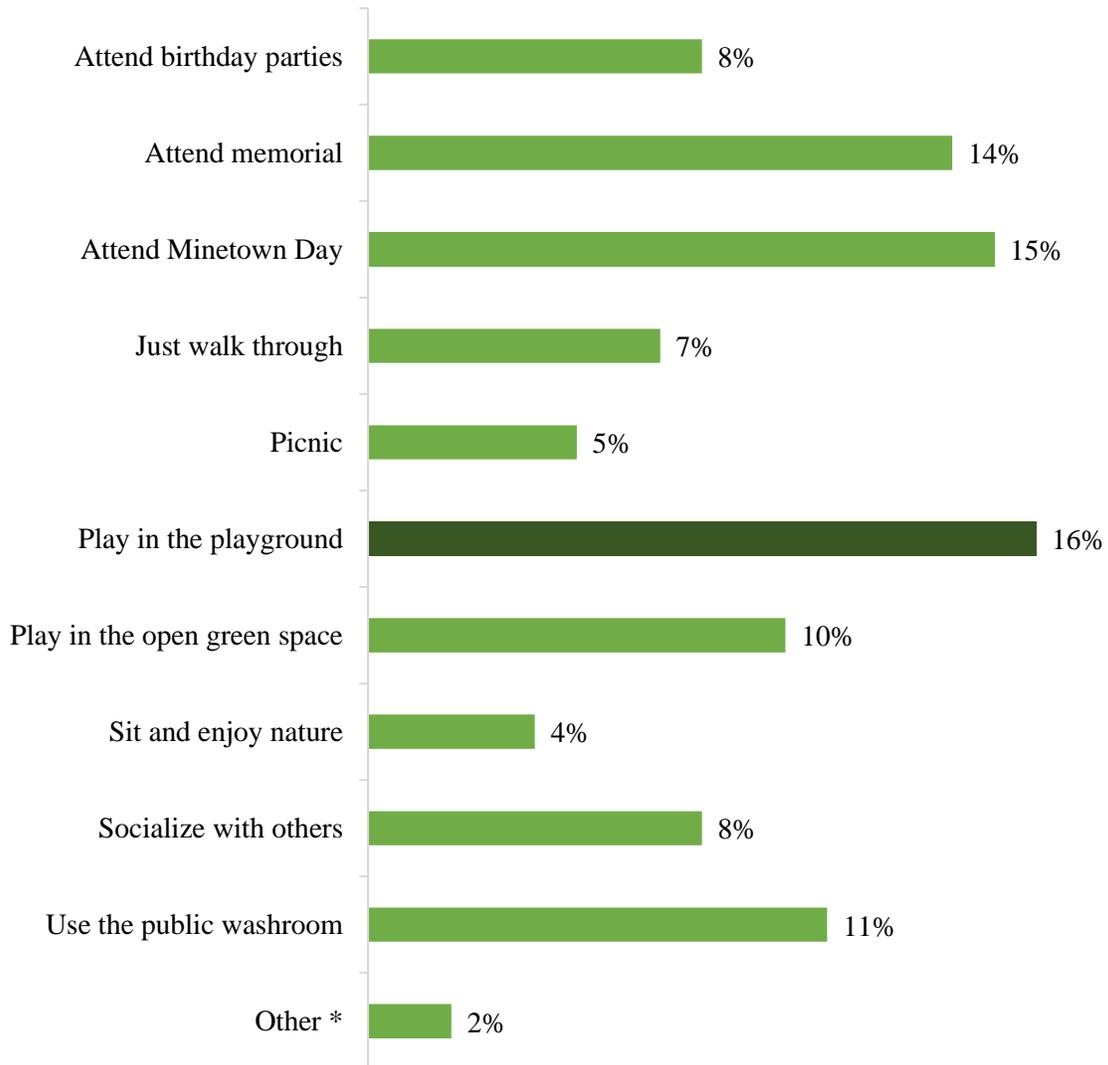


Base: All respondents (n= 111)

### 3. What do you (and/or your children) do at Huddleston Park?

*Select all that apply*

The most common park activities are play in the playground (16%), attend Minetown Day (15%) and attend memorial (14%).



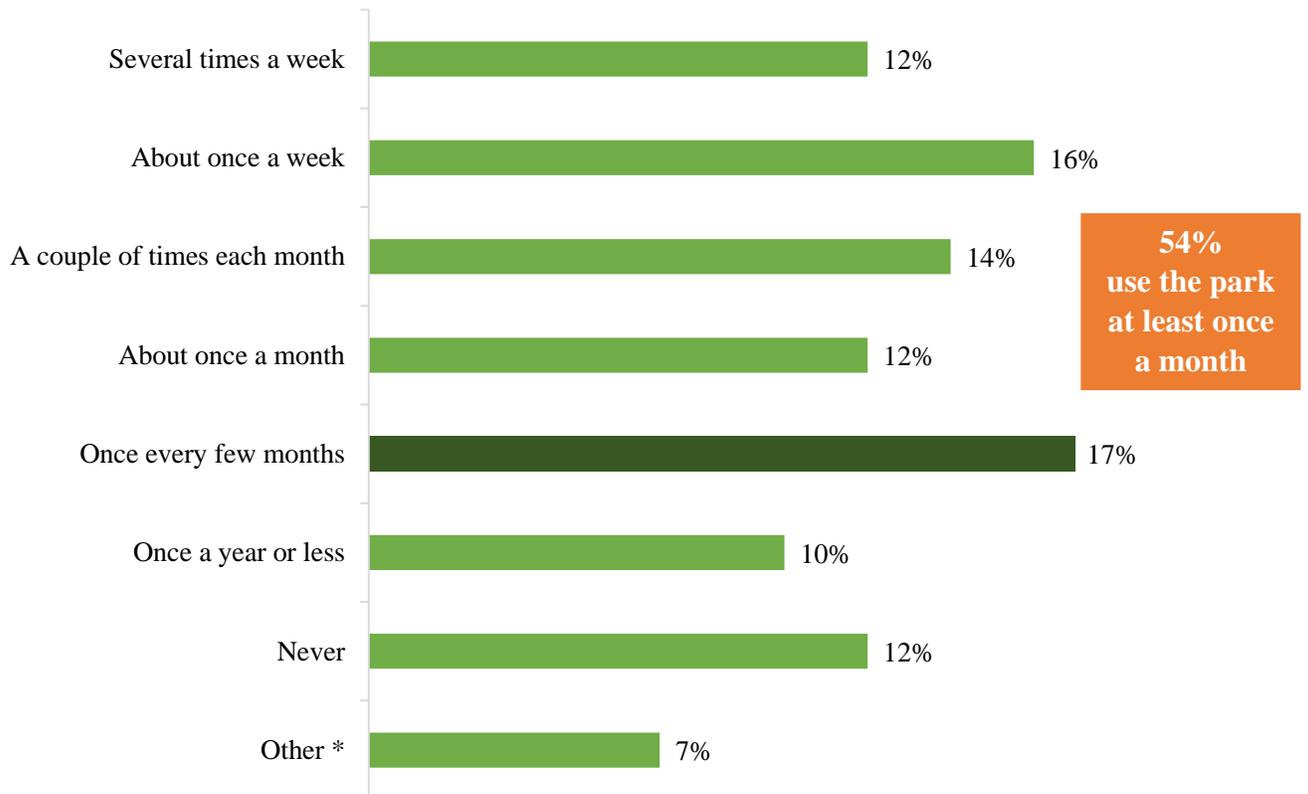
Base: All respondents (n= 111)

**\* if selected 'Other':**

- Taking grand-daughters there.
- Care for roses.
- Son's preschool plays there too.
- Walk around and look at trees.
- Rent picnic shelter; pokemon go.
- Large Group activities with Boys and Girls Clubs.
- Host Birthday parties.
- Never been there.

#### 4. On average, how often do you and/or your children use the playground equipment in Huddlestone Park? *Select one*

About half of respondents use the playground equipment in Huddlestone Park once a month or more.



Base: All respondents (n= 111)

**\* if selected 'Other':**

- Kids are older so rarely.
- Use the park when grandchildren visit.
- Kids are older now, but for 10+ yrs we used it several times per week.
- We don't have children anymore and grandchildren not here yet.
- Whenever we visit park with grandchildren.
- Kids don't live in Lantzville any more - can't afford it!
- Only when grandchildren are visiting.
- When grandchildren visit!

## **5. You would use the playground equipment in Huddlestone Park more often if...**

- ... bigger slide; more climbing equipment; if the existing park wasn't crumbling, e.g.: tires.
- ... Our kids are grown adults.
- ... use equipment with grandkids.
- ... updated equipment for older children not just toddlers, climbing structures, ziplines, spray park area. Also winter events, farmers markets, book fairs, skating rinks. Something like Woodgrove has created in Center Square Xmas the lighting in Park during season, etc.
- ... it was not so old. We love the park! Great location and great size.
- ... We love the helicopter and zebra.
- ... I'm 74. However, grandkids would like more variety.
- ... there was a climbing wall.
- ... more suitable to smaller children when the weather is nicer.
- ... climbing wall; like the setup with slides/wood/kids love to walk along tires.
- ... it included adult-sized fitness-type equipment.
- ... We go often already.
- ... it was updated - as long as there's a merry-go-round (or whatever it's called).
- ... I was younger.
- ... there was more playground equipment.
- ... it was updated and more appealing to children.
- ... we lived closer.

- ... it had more equipment and variety. Parking sometimes a bit limited too (for big vehicle to back out). People sometimes park in opposite directions (confusing layout).
- ... more young families used the park which they will probably once it's updated.
- ... it was updated.
- ... we were children; if we still had children at home.
- ... we use this park everyday and every year for my son's birthday since 2008 until now.
- ... if the play structure was updated.
- ... better washroom facilities. Path for stroller. Section for small kids (equipment is hard for 0-2 yr olds). More swing options.
- ... natural play elements: water works pump; acoustic music options; slides build into hill/slope; sensory path; slackline poles; more trees; sand; rocks; gravel; log balancing; tunnel (aluminum); large rocks; teepee; river way; rope tunnel; log bridge - balance across; mud kitchen.
- ... it was just left the way it is!
- ... more modern play equipment for all child age ranges. E.g. Parksville Beach.
- ... the children (my grandchildren) visited more often.
- ... it suited older kids too - the park on Harby is TERRIBLE now. It used to be awesome. Please don't screw this up.
- ... there was a water park.
- ... dogs were allowed and equipment was geared towards older kids.
- ... there was an enclosed area for dogs to run. Exercise equipment for adults. More yoga in park or exercise programs (kids play). Kids are getting older - so older activities (soccer net) too.
- ... I had grandchildren.
- ... our grandchildren lived in Lantzville.

- ... there was more shade - so scorching hot in the summer.
- ... I lived closer.
- ... dogs were allowed in park.
- ... We love the park as it is.
- ... equipment is updated.
- ... adult orientated equipment for fitness and fun. As well as child orientated equipment.
- ... my older two children are 3 years old and I have a 10-month-old baby. We will likely use it more and more in the years to come.
- ... more variety; cover against rain/snow.
- ... it was newer and safer condition.
- ... shaded seating in different areas of the park.
- ... there were options for both toddlers and big kids. The kids love swings, monkey bars, the round about - all the old school toys.
- ... it was kept up.
- ... better accessibility for special needs across generations.
- ... please avoid plastic. Have items that are more fitting with a natural park environment.
- ... there was no smoking and no pets. Have left the park because of smoking over "friendly" pets and pet waste. Also, put a stop to the seagull feeding across from the park the waste is a health issue for park users.
- ... you did something for older kids such as a sand volleyball court. It may bring more of the community (teenage and adults) together!
- ... it was closer to my house. I love this playground, and my kids love it too. The open space and sunniness are very welcome, and my kids absolutely love the helicopter!
- ... it had more things for older kids. We used it a lot when my son was younger.

- ... we don't have any issue with the equipment, we live in upper Lantzville and frequent Copley Park. PLEASE CONSIDER UPDATES THERE SOON (i.e. small, level playfield for sports - too many "holes" currently).
- ... there was more equipment for bigger kids; more monkey bars/swinging equipment; more slides/ bigger ones.
- ... there was a zipline or glider.
- ... it had equipment for a wider range of kids - smaller pieces for toddler (1-2 yrs) age as well as bigger climbing pieces for 5yr olds and older.
- ... I had a reason to.
- ... there was a bike track.
- ... there were more things to climb on (e.g. helicopter) and if there were more swings, and if there was a log-running thing (like what used to be at the top of Peterson).
- ... it was a larger and newer playground, had more activities/equipment and was safer!
- ... new, more modern and adventurous.
- ... I didn't work full time and had more time with my son. Had activities for older children-parkour course; zipline.
- ... it had a zipline and more monkey bars. Waterpark and waterslide with water sprayers.
- ... there were larger slides, updated play equipment geared to older children as well (ages 8-12).
- ... it was updated.
- ... it was closer and in walking distance. Hence, we use Copley more often.
- ... there were options for adults.
- ... we lived in lower Lantzville. We live in Windchelsea, where our park is up of McDonalds old play equipment.

... it didn't rain so much.

... it was more of an adult fitness circuit.

... designed for older children.

... the park is great for young kids but not much to offer older kids.

... it depends on how often we have company.

... we lived closer.

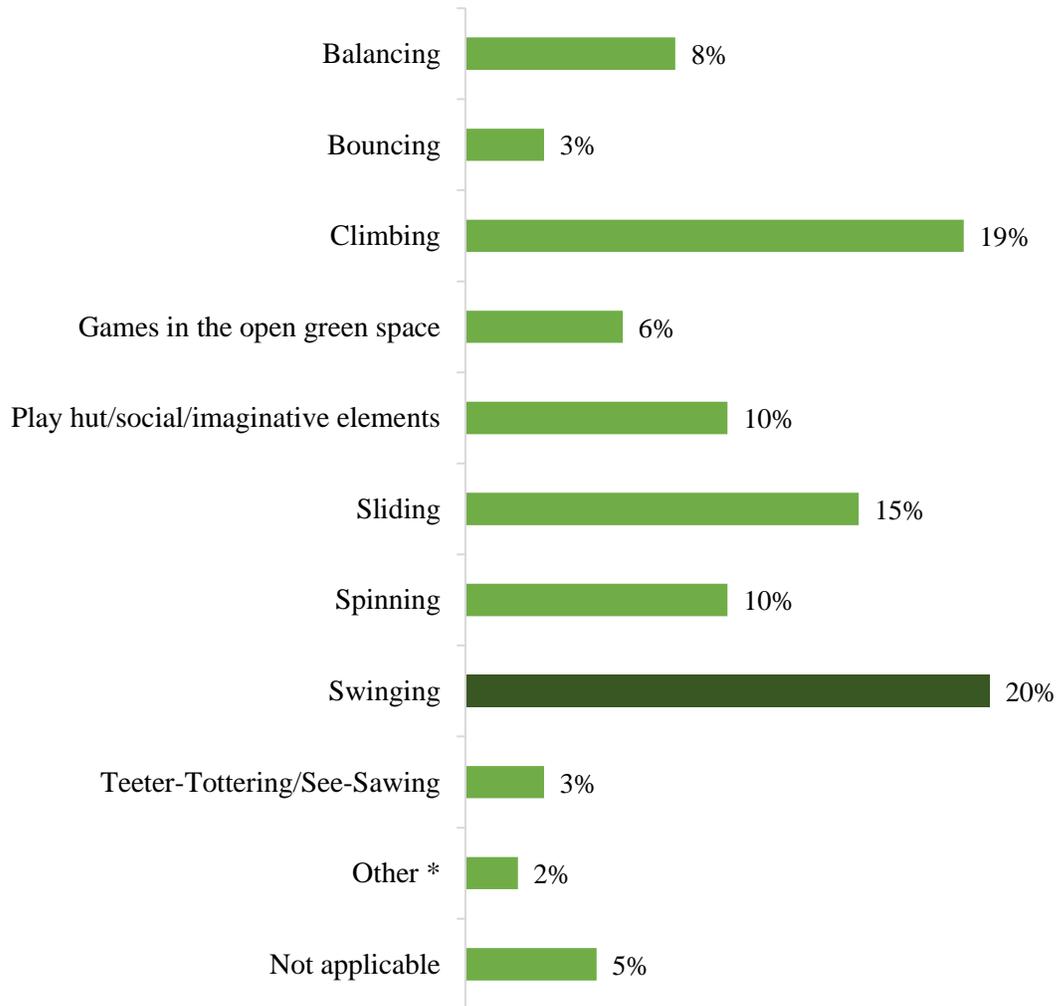
... there are new equipment and more children are visiting the playground to play. Newer and safer equipment will encourage more families to play and visit the park.

... they visited more.

## 6. What is your child's favourite playground activity in Huddlestone Park?

*Select up to 3*

By far, the activity that respondents' report their children enjoy the most is swinging – identified by 20% of those surveyed. This was followed by climbing (19%) and sliding (15%).



Base: All respondents (n= 111)

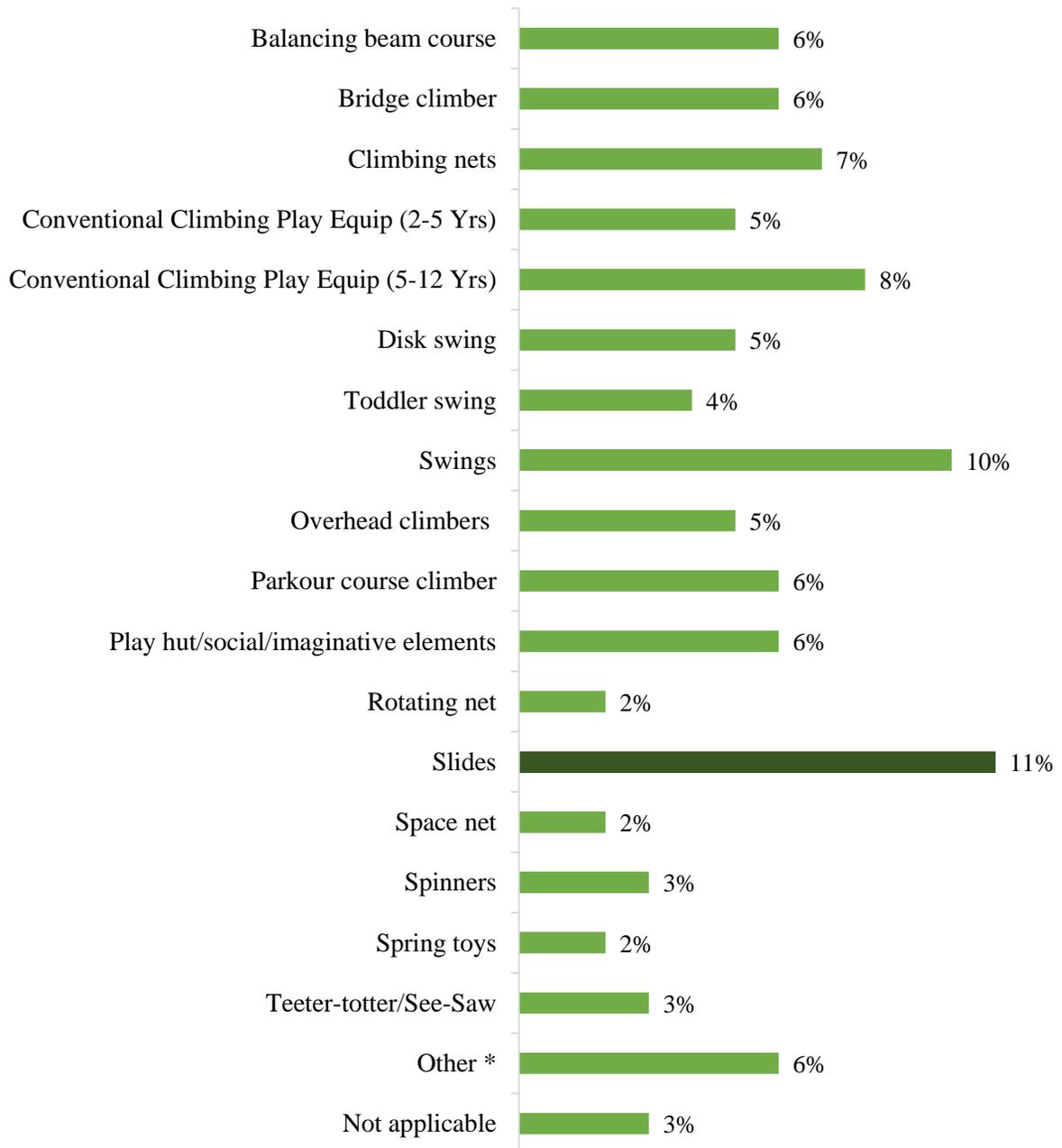
**\* if selected 'Other':**

- Water fight → end of school year, water parks
- Zebra
- The playground carousel roundabout
- Zebra and roundabout
- will use more when grandchildren are older
- climbing the helicopter
- fire pole

**7. What are your child’s favourite pieces of playground equipment that you would like to see in the new playground equipment in Huddlestone Park?**

*Select up to 5*

The top four pieces of playground equipment among respondents’ children (as identified by respondents) were slides, swings, conventional climbing play equipment (5-12 years) and climbing nets.



Base: All respondents (n= 111)

**\* if selected 'Other':**

- Spray park, zipline
- Keep the helicopter and zebra
- Badminton area
- Zipline
- Merry-go-round
- Flying Fox
- Maybe natural elements
- Playground carousel roundabout
- Zipline
- Water park
- Zipline
- Zipline
- Green Space
- Zipline of sorts (slider?)
- Zipline
- Adult fitness equipment
- Zipline
- Inclusive items for accessibility challenges
- Zipline
- Zipline
- Zipline
- Sliders or zipline
- Zipline
- Zipline
- Tire Swing
- Zipline
- Tree House; cave; Merry-Go-Round (a favourite feature of Huddlestone for both of my kids); Zipline

- A good company to go through would be Kinsol Play. They do natural-based play structures. Especially considering the children in Lantzville lost much of "their" forest to play in.

## **8. Do you have any other ideas or comments on how we can improve the playground at Huddlestone Park and things that you would like us to consider?**

- “A water fountain would be nice. More up-to-date benches would be helpful. Huddlestone Park is my son's favourite park. I know he will be very excited to see it updated.”
- “More benches in groups together around the park.”
- “Putting in a water spray park would have the children continuously there in the summer. There are some great ones to go and see for ideas, one in Courtenay. Also ziplines for kids. For adults: horse shoe pits, putting green, more benches, barbecue pits, or stands to put portable barbecue's. Kids small bike track beside playground like the one at Rath Trevor. In-line skater area for youths, etc.”
- “Please do not make the park smaller. Make sure there is the same amount of play structures or more than what already there.”
- ”Additions are great but what we have is still useful.”
- “Water fountain; Saturday picnic tables; low-level, relatively short zipline, adults act as the return rope.”
- “No.”
- “Benches around edges of park and around playground.”
- “Design for all ages. Disappointed that park on Peterson Rd only for under 5yrs old. Would like some equipment at that park for over 5yrs old as well.”
- “A sheltered bench right next to the fun. A water fountain (drinking for kids and pets).”
- “We'd like to see a few more benches around the playground so grandparents with sore knees can sit down. Otherwise we really like the park layout with lots of green space for everyone to run or walk around.”
- “Would love to see the park offer a variety of play structure for younger and older kids. Examples: Parksville beach, Mansfield park Nanaimo.”

- “Zipline.”
- “A watering system so we would have a green space in the village.”
- “Water park area; toddler/young child bicycle park - small children only.”
- “Good landing base; bright colours; easy view seating area.”
- “Having paved path around playground for kids to learn ride bikes and road signs (something like Beban Park Playground has - paved path around). Better Sandbox.”
- “I asked my kids (ages 3 through 9). Here are their thoughts: Zipline; space net (like Altrusa); bike track around the outer edge; bridge; fireman poles; slides with tunnels and/or twisty, jungle gym (monkey bars, swinging steps, etc.). Remove some trees by the old merry-go-round. It can feel a bit isolated and uncomfortable sometimes. Leave the bathroom! It's so great to have it there!”
- “Some natural playground elements would be wonderful (boulders, logs, trees, shrubs) and would encourage imaginative play.”
- “It would be cool to utilize a vintage Lantzville firetruck and sink in ground.”
- “A participation circuit that youth of all ages and adults could use. Tires to run through, climbing wall, hoop-monkey bars, zip line. Parksville Beach Playground has many unique wonderful stations.”
- “Personally, I just enjoy the park space and feel we are losing open green space in Lantzville. Any equipment that children enjoy and develops their physical skills is valuable. If you have to limit equipment, make sure to concentrate on activities for under five years as older children can use school playground.”
- “Close the playground when the Remembrance Day Ceremony is on. Impose limits on P.A. usage and sound electronic volume level - park surrounded by residential homes. No sound pollution! Charge a cost-recovery fee for groups (renting) the park.”
- “More benches, picnic tables for our community to visit and enjoy. Be wonderful to have a lending/ borrowing library. Activities for family; a family-kid-day-party for BC's Family Day.”
- “Allow dogs - have poop bags. Zipline.”

- “The bike path for kids learning to ride at Beban Park is great. Would love to see something like that.”
- “Add more trees - for shade + learning. spread out play ground space.”
- “Leave it! Perfectly safe and enjoyed by all. Don't get caught up in a "sales job" by experts wanting to sell equipment - we don't need new and fancy!”
- “Moving but keeping the carousel into a sunnier location. Please don't get rid of the carousel, it has been a favorite since I was a child in the 1980's.”
- “Paved bike path like Beban park.”
- “Please make it as big as possible. Toddler parks only suit a few kids. Big kids want to play too. And they all grow up. The park already at Huddlestone is great, our family really misses the one up on Harby. It was huge with double slides for racing a friend. The best playgrounds were the old ones.”
- “Extra play ground equipment, add a water park, basketball/hockey courtyard.”
- “I would like to see a garbage can at the entrance by the church and road. Add a water fountain.”
- “In the summer host farmers market around dinner time one day a week. With food trucks and a local band. I've seen it done in other communities and they all bring lawn chairs and dance. So a stage would be great. Especially to see better for Remembrance days and events.”
- “Not really as no children. But when my child was younger used Huddlestone Park quite a bit, all rides (play equipment) was very good. Children like all kinds of play equipment! Adults must be aware that any equipment can be dangerous if children are not supervised.”
- “How about an earth hill about 20 feet high or more that children can run up and down, chase around, it could have slides embedded in it to eliminate falling at top. Running up and down hills is great exercise and fun. There are two at Barney Moriez Park in Nanaimo. Zipline, please check out. Playground at end of Cook Street in Beacon Hill Park. Kids love it there. In my opinion playground equipment should be chosen and provided to allow the greatest variety of movement for children throughout their

development stages for e.g.: reaching and stretching and pulling and gripping. Swinging and balancing with a variety of sensory input from bouncing, gliding, sliding, spinning on both stationary and moving equipment. Of course, social interaction are important skills, to be reinforced, but these happen throughout the day and at other venues. For many children the Park playground is the only place they can challenge and grow their motor skills in the outdoors. So important in today's sedentary lifestyle.”

- “Ensure accessibility with respect to including people in wheelchairs, strollers, walkers and others with mobility issues. Use CSA approved fall protection with good drainage. This wood-based material will accept wheelchairs, etc., has longevity, doesn't migrate (much) and in case anyone was to wonder, there are no extraordinary slipper issues. The product is produced specifically for playground fall protection when installed at recommended depth. Using this material will also allow inclusivity for all, in that even if a kid in a chair or a mom with a stroller can't/won't use the equipment, they will be able to join their peers in the same play area. Install where no trees would be safety concern with respect to falling branches. Also, organic debris will contaminate the fall protection.”
- “After Minetown Day 2017 the park was so filthy with garbage all over the playground and field - very disappointing - please clean up more frequently. Bathroom is often dirty.”
- “In order to prevent, mainly older persons falling in the drainage ditch. I have witnessed several falls, place a drain ditch pedestrian bridge (small), over the ditch at the intersection of Huddleston and Lantzville Roads near the pedestrian walkover. Older people follow the memorial path northward and upon finding the fence gate closed continue northward and attend to jump/walk across the ditch.”
- “Seating near play equipment. Not spinning equipment - too many accidents. Check out Comox playground near Marina.”
- “I take my preschool grandchildren to park when they visit from out of country. It would be nice if grass was watered and kept green during summer months. I think park would be used more.”
- “Please keep the forest area. Older children love the natural landscape. The shelter and toilets make this a favourite large group gathering place along with the sun and shade mix. Its one of the best playgrounds with a shelter in the local region!”
- “My son wants me to include that he really wants a zip cord. We regularly drive to the community park in Parksville for their zip cord.”

- “Please try to minimize plastic equipment. Use as much natural or recycled materials as possible. Our kids love the tires and walking along them. Ideally - to have two structures - one for toddlers (2-6 yrs., young kids) and one for older kids (7-10 yrs.), to climb and slide on.”
- “Better surface under swings/slides. Perhaps rubber rather than gravel.”
- “Rubberized surface if budget allows. Merry-go-round a hit with kids but causes falls. Would like to see 2-5 elements as well as 5-12.”
- “Allow dogs on leash.”
- “Keep the natural wood feel more pronounced; sand box”
- “Diggers, sandbox.”
- “Please keep in mind accessibility for children with special needs as well as parents and grandparents with special needs. Equipment that is accessible and walkways that are accessible for wheelchairs/scooters. I often choose a park in Nanaimo or Parksville to go to as it meets the needs of my family.”
- “Please keep the Merry-go-round. Please consider adding a water park.”
- “The big parties that move in with a PA system and loud music are very annoying for others who may want to use the park at the same time. It pretty much forces you to leave. Other than community events I think the park should be limited to groups of 200 or less and there should not be access to power to operate noise like music and PA's.”
- “No smoking of anything, ever. No pets of any kind, ever. Play equipment suitable for mobility challenged individuals. No charge to book the pavilion, ever. Install a St. Anthony's Face to Face Glider - Forever Redwood. See: [foreverredwood.com](http://foreverredwood.com) for details. These were in Victoria's Beacon Hill Park, they can be enjoyed by grandparents and grandchildren gliding together, special times! Add Live 5-2-1-0 Playboxes to Lantzville Parks. See [live5210.ca](http://live5210.ca) for details. The new Huddlestone play equipment should be colourful to invite children, convey a sense of fun and playfulness; no splinter producing items such as pieces in "Nature" playgrounds. Put a stop to the seagull feeding across from park. The bird waste on the park equipment is a health hazard.”

- “Eliminate amplification to community events only. Amplified music/PA in one part of the park exposes everyone who uses the park to the noise and eliminates the peace and quiet of being in nature and enjoying birdsong, children's voices etc. Noise pollution = amplification. Reduce bouncy castles etc.”
- “The open space and imaginative play structures are really valued by my family. Please don't oversimplify the play structures.”
- “Please keep the trees for shade in the summer.”
- “Make this a park for kids of all ages to play at. Try to have equipment that is good for a broad age range, not just for little kids. Avoid playground equipment like the new equipment that went in the Rotery park on Peterson Rd. that is only good for very small kids. Please keep the helicopter and spinner. Thanks for upgrading the park we spend a lot of time there.”
- “My son attends afterschool care with Boys and Girls Club. They use the park a couple of times a week with the group. They play games and run around the space.”
- “Keep some green space for field games like soccer! Position play equipment so, it gets morning sun (so toys dry and morning sun safer than afternoon sun?). Or full sun and some shaded areas. Toys/apparatus for larger age range. Keep the no amplified music rule after 5pm; could then also be some guidance on noise level during daytime (for private parties, not for community events like Minetown day).”
- “Keep it as peaceful and natural as possible. No canned music or PA's (very annoying). Some equipment adults can use too - like participark.”
- “Waterpark if feasible.”
- “More walking paths throughout Lantzville which would link up to beaches and parks.”
- “Let dogs in!”
- “I would like to see an improved and larger playground that is updated to modern safety standards. I would be happy to see a small zipline (sit-in) that could cross the park and be the main equipment that would draw attention. Also please keep a large green space for soccer, frisbee etc.!”

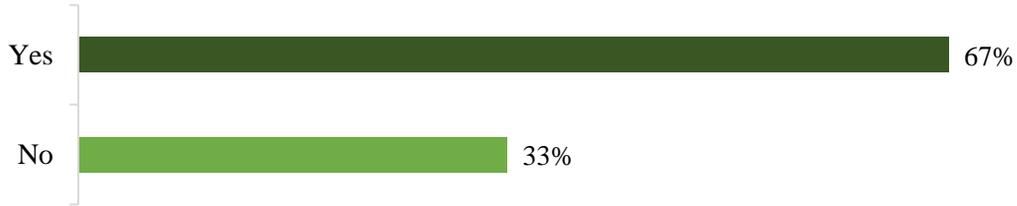
- “Keep the open space open for running around, soccer, events. Keep trees in clustered in selected areas out of the way or in corners - not out in the middle of nowhere!”
- “Leave the merry-go-round thing in. Leave the Zebra or get better toddler swing.”
- “Wooden lookout structures with swing bridges in between, similar to Parksville Beach, with parts to swing, climb, balance, zipline.”
- “Improved PA system - can't hear Remembrance Day speakers.”
- “Recommend keep the big trees for shade. I like the size, variety of current park and how the elements are spread out over the area (not a compact, dense park play space). Couple more picnic benches on green space?”
- “Priority #1 - should be safety of all equipment. Not only at Huddlestone Park but also at Copley where both our grandsons have been injured playing on the equipment. One fell through a gap on climbing equipment that was too large and the other badly broke his arm falling on to too hard ground from monkey bar (emergency surgery + pins).”
- “Take the opportunity to make the park more inclusive by providing adult "playground" equipment - yes it does exist. The refurbishing of our community park's equipment and design provides the appropriate timing as the area will most likely require some layout changes and a budget for this purpose is already under consideration. Adult equipment would not only be beneficial for parents but for those adults in the community that don't have children but would like to have options in our park to actively utilize.”
- “Why are we replacing Huddlestone Park and not Copley? Copley is much older and less safe. My youngest has fallen through the gaps in the equipment multiple times, once getting the wind knocked out of him. My oldest son fell off the monkey bars onto gravel so compacted it was as hard as cement. His arm snapped in half, was taken by ambulance, had emergency surgery, multiple pins, and physio. We were encouraged to sue... and yet Copley remains and Huddlestone (a newer park) gets new equipment? I don't understand...? Please don't misread this. I am thrilled that Huddlestone is getting an upgrade. All Lantzville Parks need to be looked at though.”
- “A zipline, slackline, climbing nets would be amazing. Things that parents can enjoy with their older (8-14 yrs old) kids. Balance beam course, parkour course, as well. Or things like a life size checker board, snakes and ladder game, large sculptures to climb as (like gyro park in Victoria octopus). A castle with ladders, slides, climbers to get to different rooms. A play house or tree fort or play boat. Make sure to keep the nature play areas.

My kids love jumping in the leaves from the big maple, and making homes in the rhodo garden area. And picking apples.”

- “I think there needs to be more focus on some sensible development. Something to create a tax base. A playground will not. Lantzville's 'Downtown' is slowly becoming a ghost town.”
- “Would love to see a path that goes around the park like they do at Bowen, so kids can ride bikes, scooters, etc. Zipline is great fun for older kids.”
- “It would be nice if amplified music or PA systems were not an option except for Minetown Days and Remembrance Day or other community events. The park is very popular in the summer, which is great! But for the people living in the immediate vicinity it might be a burden if too many functions were "amplified".”
- “Add a waterpark or small water feature. Don't get rid of any trees.”
- “I would love to see a "water park" (even just a small one) for Lantzville children and families to enjoy when the weather is warm (SUMMER TIME!). This playground feature will make the park more inviting and enjoyable. Families won't have to drive up Departure Bay or Parksville should we have this added in the park. Thank you!”
- “Do not do another Rotary park play structure. The previous structure at Rotary park was 10x better than the replacement playground structure. Some examples of good designs are Groveland Park and or similar to Oliver woods or the playground at Maffeo Sutton Park, but a lesser degree in size.”
- “Be mindful of the fact the Lantzville fire fighters donated the swings in both Huddlestone and Copley Parks.”
- “Keep the Zebra!”

### 9. Do you have children at home or under your care under the age of 18?

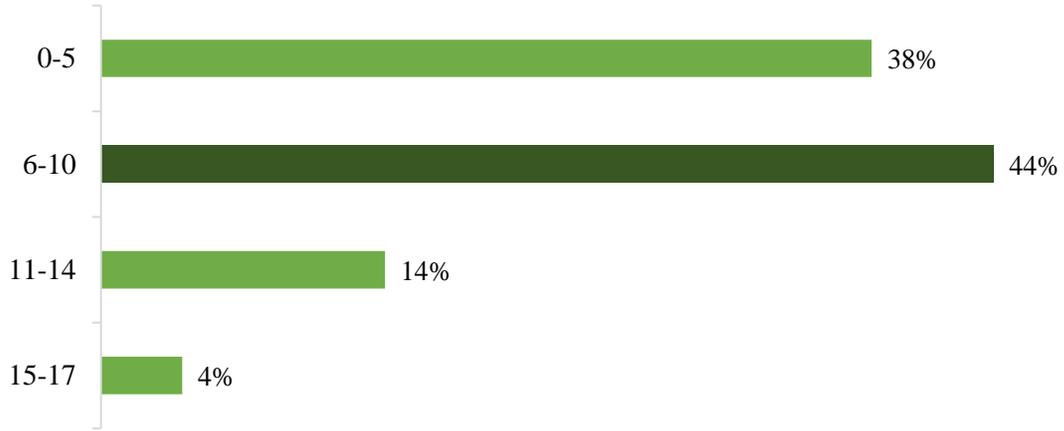
Almost three-quarters of respondents have children under the age of 18.



Base: All respondents (n= 111)

**10. What are the ages of the children?**     *Select all that apply*

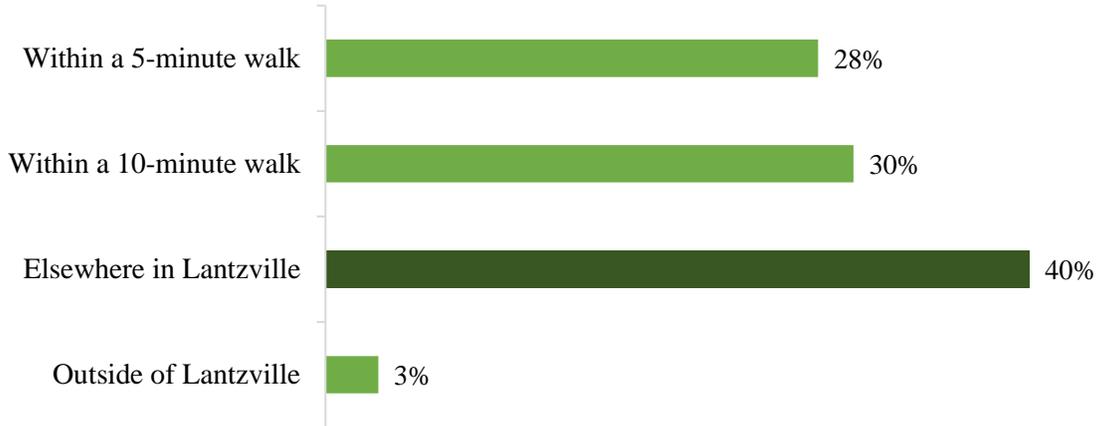
About 80% of respondents have children under the age of 11 years.



Base:     All respondents (n= 111)

## 11. How close do you live to Huddlestone Park?

More than half of the respondents live within a 10-minute walk or closer to Huddlestone Park.



Base: All respondents (n= 111)