

# 2020 KCCI BIKE PARK



**An educational bike park is a space designed to simulate real-life situations to teach students valuable bicycle safety skills they can carry with them throughout life. Educational bicycle parks are spaces on school campuses that instruct kids on how to ride a bike safely and provide active problem-solving lessons in navigation and road rules. In addition, educational bike programs improve both mental and physical health through physical education.**

Florida's first educational bike park on a school campus was a public-private collaboration that was envisioned and created by the 13 volunteer Knight Creative Communities Institute (KCCI) 2020 Community Catalyst team members with support from Leon County Schools, Lowes, Lewis + Whitlock, Capital City Bank, Tallahassee Mountain Biking Association, First Baptist Church of Tallahassee, and Big Bend Habitat for Humanity. The first space was created at Sabal Palm Elementary School and includes three zones that repurposed underutilized places to create educational areas, that promote bicycle learning experiences for children ages 4-11.

**INTERESTED IN BUILDING A BIKE PARK AT YOUR SCHOOL SIMILAR TO THE ONE WE MADE AT SABAL PALM ELEMENTARY SCHOOL IN TALLAHASSEE, FL?!**



## JUST FOLLOW OUR HOW-TO GUIDE HERE:

A bike "park" can be designed in all shapes and sizes! The design can be educational safety murals, painted "traffic" lanes, raised platforms, or any combination of these ideas. You are only limited by your imagination.

1. Identify a location on your school campus that would best be suited for your idea(s). Concrete, asphalt or grassy surfaces-can all be used for different purposes. Consider how close the location is to nearby water fountains how it can be accessed by an ADA path / sidewalk.
2. Now that you have location, it is best to work with a graphic designer / planner to create the layout of the park. Try incorporating elements unique to your surrounding context (railway tracks, bridges, roundabouts, etc.) in addition to everyday obstacles students need to learn road rules (pedestrian crossings, stop and yield signs). It is also encouraged to coordinate the design with the Physical Education teacher who will be utilizing the space.
3. Once you have your design ready, ensure you have approval from your School Principal. If needed, verify with the school district legal department.
4. PAINTING: For a professional result, consult with the school district to have the space prepped and painted. For extra support, team up with the parent teacher-organization or local volunteers to paint the space. Carefully consider with tasks are best suited to which partner, as the school district will ultimately be responsible for the maintenance of the area, they may prove to be your best partner for these projects.
5. BUILDING: Raised platforms can be built using pressure treated lumber from the local hardware store. The platforms can be a variety of shapes and heights and should be age appropriate. Our platforms were built 6 feet in length, 2 feet across, and the highest point was 12 inches in height. Consider if a wider ramp is needed for students with three-wheeled bicycles.
6. Work with your local non-profits such as Habitat for Humanity or other non-profit organizations to enhance the design with benches, shade features, and even landscaping to your projects. Teaching aids such as small wooden stop or yield signs can be built as to stand alone or be hand-held at locations pre-designated by the instructor.
7. Most important of all...Have fun!