# modern teaching Brilliant learning spaces



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# **Creating brilliant learning spaces together**

Brilliant learning outcomes come from brilliantly considered spaces and the resources in them. Whether the goal for your learning space is to revive, refurb or re-imagine, MTA helps you approach the project holistically, taking you from inspiration to completion.

We go beyond the furniture and fittings, to focus on a complete solution that encompasses equipment and resources. A modern, welcoming space that is alive with learning and teaching possibility, curated just for you... that's the MTA difference. We're passionate about helping educators create engaging, childfocused environments that ignite creativity and facilitate pedagogy across all developmental stages. The MTA team works collaboratively with you to support best practice in the design and use of your play space or learning environment.

A free MTA discovery session will focus you! We'll help you explore things like theme, colour scheme, how many children in your space or whether you need multiple zones. Is there a philosophy or pedagogical approach to consider? We help you look through all those lenses to bring your learning space to life.

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### Why your learning space environment matters

Environments can affect our moods, our ability to form relationships, our effectiveness in work or play – even our health. So, an effectively designed space, and the environment within it, has the potential to positively influence every area of a child's learning and development!



#### Naomi Walker

General Manager, Education Resources, Early Learning



#### **Train the brain!**

The early learning environment has a particularly crucial role as young children are in the process of rapid brain development. The brain develops stronger connections, or synapses, based on a child's experiences. The desired result in early childhood is to create a space where children feel safe, welcome and a sense of belonging, so they can reach a deep level of learning and convey an understanding of their place in the world.

#### At their own pace

Brilliant learning spaces also empower students to learn at their own pace and support their learning needs and interests in different ways.

#### A second home

Another reason why the early childhood environment plays such a strong role is because of the amount of time children may spend in it. A young child beginning childcare may spend up to 12,000 hours in this environment before school!

#### **Inviting and restful**

Welcoming learning environments bring so many benefits. When you enlist a variety of textures, materials and colours, it helps to create an environment that is visually appealing and engaging, but also calming and restful. Young children respond differently, based on the design and the types of resources used in each space.

#### To design your new learning space, consider:

- · Child development and developmentally appropriate practices.
- Individual interests, so that environments are meaningful to each child.
- · Cultural backgrounds, to ensure that environments are relevant to each child.
- Curriculum standards and early learning guidelines, so that you can scaffold children's learning in meeting these standards.
- Your own and your program's philosophy.

https://www.pearsonhighered.com/assets/samplechapter/0/1/3/2/0132867540.pdf https://resources.wellcertified.com/articles/why-beautiful-spaces-make-us-healthier/ https://developingchild.harvard.edu/science/national-scientific-council-on-the-developing-child/ MTA offers a thoughtful and inspiring range of learning space solutions including flexible furniture and soft furnishing options, art and craft creative areas and outdoor learning environments. Plus all the educational resources to fill your new space. Let's create a brilliant learning space together.

## **Creative spaces**

Watch art and craft, messy play, drama, construction and music come to life in a learning environment which allows children to create and express themselves freely. Role play helps children to develop language and communication skills while also promoting creativity and imagination. Dramatic play also encourages children to become more confident and develop a stronger sense of identity. When children come together in role play, it aids in their social and emotional development. Listening to others, negotiation and co-operation all result from authentic dramatic play.









Nature Spaces Craft Trolley DM4111

mta



Premium Wooden 2-Sided Easel GC0850

Stockholm Maker Table & Tray STK8626K



Rainbow Floor Seats & Carry Bag KKD25



Stockholm Spaces Mobile 20 Shelf Drying Rack STK1028



Start with a theme – outer space, rainbows, an enchanted forest, a flower garden, the seaside – and build from there with your space and fill it with furniture, rugs, cushions and play resources that allow children's imaginations to soar.

### **Imaginative spaces**

Spaces that encourage creative thinking, open-ended learning and collaborative play allow children to confidently explore different roles, emotions and viewpoints.



**Natural Spaces Junior Kitchen** DM202K



World Map Teepee ZH7611

MTA Spaces Round Wood Cushions LIJ031 Mushroom Stool UBF100

## **Natural spaces**

Learning environments that incorporate natural elements allow children to connect with nature, encouraging a sense of respect and responsibility for the environment. Natural play resources and natural spaces create an understanding of the world we live in from a young age and champion a healthy lifestyle filled with fresh air and sunshine. Natural themes celebrate learning about the world around us and the everchanging cycles of nature.







**Green Thatch Carpet** GC9960



MTA Spaces Round Jute Pouf FLD101



Woven Baskets with Handles CHH188061



Write-On Wooden Hanging Boards MW600



Natural Spaces Open Back Triple Shelf DM12098



### **Sensory spaces**

Curious toddlers love to explore. They love to look. They love to move! Create an engaging play space that facilitates exploration, as children use their senses to explore, examine and discover. Engage the senses with glowing lights, gentle music, soft surfaces... a sensory space can be a safe haven to calm children, rest and reboot, or a place for discovery.





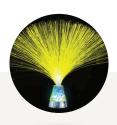
Fair Trade Chindi Woven Recycled Rug SIC201



Stockholm Spaces Cosy Pod STK107



Cushions Assorted Colours EZ50513



Fibre Optic Lamp PLLE39



**Teachables Light Box** GUW900

## **Quiet spaces**

Little ones need a mindful space where they can recharge and refocus, or transition and unwind throughout the day. Quiet spaces can be inviting, comfy chairs and open shelving that curves around like a hug to create a book nook. Cosy is the order of the day in these spaces.







Natural Spaces Sensory Nook DM2105



The Calming Pup ETA93384



**The Mindfulness Alphabet Big Book** MJI078



Raindrops Canopy ZH2003



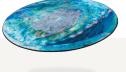
MTA Spaces Ocean Cushions LIJ2012K



## **Sleeping spaces**

In a little one's home away from home, a safe, sleeping space is all-important. We design purposeful, calming and thoughtful spaces that respond to children's need for quiet time, rest and sleep. Think a quiet, safe space for sleep and dreams.





**Tania Niwa Paua Shell Soft Memory Foam Carpet** LIJ2087



SafeSpace Ergonomic Cot, Mattress & Drawer SST131-WB



Billyara Songline Indigenous Cushions LIJ008K



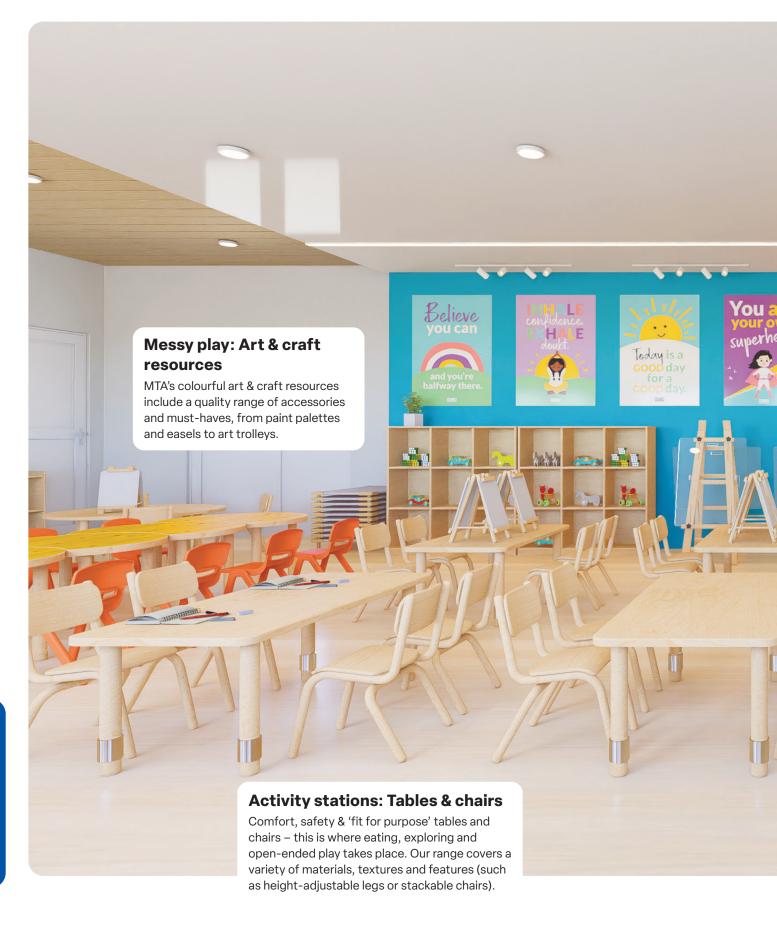
Max & Rosie Bamboo Waffle Blanket BUB413



Aalto Full Size High Back Arm Chair ALT300

### How will you fill your brilliant learning space?

Providing flexible furnishing options AND filling it with an inspiring range of educational resources - that's the MTA difference. How could your new space look?



#### Technology time: Healthy tech solutions

Talk to us about how digital technology in your centre can support learning outcomes of the EYLF, is educator-friendly and activity-packed for exploration.

#### Book nooks: Centrepieces for your centre

Create a focus piece for your centre that is practical and eye-catching. A reading tree creates a sense of wonder and provides a nook for reading, quiet time and reflection.

# Play time:

#### Exploratory spaces

Our exploratory play spaces ensure sensory play and the wonder of discovery is never far away.

#### Storage superstars: Shelving solutions

Space divider, storage, room feature... ask about multi-purpose storage as functional as it is fab! Then fill those shelves with MTA resources – books, educational games and toys!

#### Snuggle up: Armchairs & sofas

Educators and children need a place to read, rest and recharge. An adult armchair can be excellent for educator-led activities. Ask about sofa chairs and sofas to complete your space.

#### **Breakout spaces: Cushions & carpets**

Carpets create definition and atmosphere. Our range of mats, carpets, low chairs and cushion seats are ideal for little ones wanting to find a quiet corner, enjoy circle time or group activities.

### **Communal spaces**

Social or group spaces build a sense of community and togetherness. These shared spaces are a place for small group play and collaboration. Dining also makes a wonderful communal experience. Think long buffet tables or outdoor picnic tables for al fresco afternoon snacks, play time and laughter with friends.

> MTA are our provider of choice. They make the time to get to know who we are and understand our culture and philosophy.

Helen Ketley, General Manager, Stepping Stone (SA) **Childcare & Early Development Centres** 





SafeSpace Toddler **Group Table** SST2103



SST5106



**Felt Stacking** Set PAPKIT2



**MTA Spaces Woven Basket with Handles** CHH188061



Stackable **Cups Set** JYN069



### **Physical play spaces**

Indoors or outdoors, the benefits of physical play and movement in early childhood are so many – from gross motor skill development to balance, coordination, a healthy mindset and team building. We have incredible resources to fill these essential and fun spaces in your centre.



## **Outdoor spaces**

Beautifully imagined outdoor environments encourage active play and develop fine and gross motor skills as children climb, explore and enjoy a variety of sensory engagements. A well-considered outdoor space can be the most loved and enchanting space for little ones, with nature, sunshine and fresh air as its gorgeous backdrop.

Why not start with an outdoor sand, water or mud table (mmm... mud pies, sand cookies and potion play!), outdoor artist painting wall, outdoor trolley to hold all those essential artist supplies, a playhouse, play barbecue, exploration kit and oversize cushions that invite fun?

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Our vision was to create an environment that fostered children's curiosity, exploration and met their developmental needs in our indoor and outdoor spaces. I was very pleased with not only the quality and appearance of the MTA resources, but the large range of resources. Redfern Cottage



#### **Get the look**



Harmony Outdoor Moveable Play Kitchen HMY10243



Outdoor Water Pump Kit ANP116K



Harmony Education Outdoor Rainbow House HMY608



Outdoor Artist Painting Wall CS1244



Funnel Table & Slide Set MR0183K



#### **Storage spaces**

Every early childhood environment needs to consider storage spaces – those functional spaces that let you stow it, stack it, store it and provide a place to easily reach for your resources, supplies and hygiene essentials that keep your centre sparkling clean.

Discover clever shelving and storage in all sorts of shapes: lockable storage, portable trolley storage, clever book display storage, versatile open-ended storage, art supply storage and wonderful solutions for your little ones' jackets, shoes, belongings and dress ups!



Stockholm Book Storage Box ACH20213

Norwegia Spaces Locker Storage NOR1002

MTA Spaces Seagrass Baskets SHT055 Aurum Spaces Open Back Triple Shelf Cabinets Kit AUR002GK

Stockholm Spaces Display Stand STK8618

### **Our success stories**

MTA project manages over 300 new build projects every year. Take a look at some of the learning environments we've helped to transform. Working with some visionary educators, we've helped to create places of inspiration and engagement.







John Paul College



I STEAM Ahead



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Creating a new centre was my challenge but it was a huge success because of the team at MTA! The entire process ran smoothly from ordering to delivery, they even unpacked, assembled and took away all the boxes. I was amazed with the range and quality of STEM/STEAM resources they offered and as a result I am proud to run a STEAM program in early learning with thanks to MTA.

Moira Battikha. Owner of I STEAM Ahead, Brookvale

**ELM Tree Centre** 



**Stepping Stone (SA) Childcare** 



**Redfern Cottage** 

Lead Childcare Centre



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We're a brand-new purpose-built centre so required a complete fit out of all our educational and furniture requirements. Our MTA Rep was there from start to finish and guided us through the whole process. I found their online range of products of very high quality covering all areas of the curriculum. The furniture fit out is beautiful natural timber that is very aesthetically pleasing, and durable for children to use and educators to keep clean. Nothing was ever too much trouble.

TLC Early Learning, Mordialloc Vic

### How we can help

MTA can help you with a complete solution to create and fill your learning space – from furniture, soft furnishings, décor, storage, tech products such as an interactive flat panel or robotics, through to a wide and wonderful range of age-appropriate quality educational resources. We make it easy and love helping you to create brilliant learning spaces.



# Bringing your vison to life

For large projects, we can provide 3D modelling of the space. By enlisting our CAD (computer aided design) tool, you see your vision come to life in a 3D floorplan.

If you need a Learning Environment Model, our inhouse CAD designer can show you how your centre or school will look in a three-dimensional image.

Together, through 3D modelling, we can create the ideal space:

- 1. We work with you on your vision
- 2. Choose colours/furniture, areas, furnishings
- 3. We create CAD 3D images
- 4. You see your space before we create it





### From discovery to delivery, we make your learning space vision come to life.

#### Book a free discovery session

Speak to an expert about your brilliant new learning space. Talking through your pedagogical needs or wish list items will help you plan your space more efficiently. An MTA Consultant will help unlock ideas such as theme, colour scheme and the type of learning you want students to experience in the space.





#### **Bigger plans?**

If you have a large project, we'll work closely with your architect, builder or designer to plan, create and realise your new learning space. To learn more about MTA's range of learning space and furniture resources, visit our website. To connect with your local Consultant, reach out to MTA by phone on 1800 251 497 or email sales@teaching.com.au

