

DISCOVERY MEADOWS CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER

501 ORCHARD RIDGE DRIVE, GAITHERSBURG, MD 20878

PROJECT TEAM

AstraZeneca - Owner
DPR Construction - General Contractor
StudioMLA - Architect
Macris, Hendricks, & Glasscock - Civil Engineer
Structura - Structural Engineer
Reese Engineering - MEP Engineer
Shapiro & Duncan - Mechanical & Plumbing Contractor
7group / HOK - Sustainability Consultant

PROJECT SIZE 23,500 GSF

CERTIFICATION LEED-NC V3 BD+C Platinum

FTE 162 Children, 50 FTE

DAILY VISITORS 187 Parents / Guardians

DESCRIPTION

Discovery Meadows is a two-story, 23,500-sq.-ft. child development center designed to accommodate 180 children, infant to six years of age. The facility also provides after-school program facilities for 40 school-age children of employees of based at this biopharmaceutical research and development campus of 4,000 employees. Play spaces surround the building footprint, providing age-appropriate play areas for each age group of students. This facility was designed as a curving linear building generally facing north and south on the long sides, supported by extensive resilient features starting with geothermally-driven radiant floor slabs.

The center is built with an upper and lower level, with the lower level providing three, 30-student preschool rooms opening onto the lower level outside play areas. Each classroom throughout the facility provides student restrooms. The staff lounge, a warming kitchen, the after-school care area, a small library, mechanical and electrical rooms and office space are also provided on this level. Support spaces are built on the interior zone, and classroom spaces are arrayed along the southern exposure with operable windows and doors opening right onto play spaces.

The project includes all site work, planted stormwater management on site, landscaping, utilities and surface parking for 51 cars, built over the 30-well geothermal field. The building is set back 100 feet from the road using a berm, trees and plantings to provide natural screening and act as a visual, sound, and light barrier between the surrounding residential properties and the structure. A PV array is placed over a portion of the parking area, providing both shade and approximately 14% of the power generation required for the facility.

