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In most European cities, until the 19th century, no need was seen for special areas for children to play and relax. Since ancient times, both in private gardens and in public areas (around city squares, temples) children could play freely. In the modern period, the need to provide children and young people with adequate conditions for active recreation – treated both as a daily need for physical exertion and as a way to manage festive leisure time with family and peers – has been evident for less than 200 years.

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