

## Scenario:

You have been approached by a group of concerned parents intent on developing an alternative community preschool and kindergarten for their children to what is currently offered in Miami Dade County. As the architect, you will have the unique opportunity to design an environmentally friendly and completely sustainable learning environment for 20 children that will reinforce architecturally the teaching methodology of this school.

Your clients come from varied ethnic, cultural, and religious backgrounds. They are also engaged in a variety of work related activities that include; housewives, a yoga instructor, administrators, a scientist, a tattoo artist, therapists, a gardener, educators, baker, designers, and attorneys to name a few. These parents, however, all share a common vision to create a loving and protected learning environment where their children can interact with nature and be engaged in a variety of activities aimed at nurturing their creative imagination.

The curriculum of this school is fundamentally child centered and based on the Waldorf Methodology as developed by Rudolph Steiner. It is an education of the head, hands, and heart; where each child is encouraged to develop intellectual abilities, creative sensibilities and foster awareness of each through kindness and compassion.

The Miami Dade College School of Education has decided to make this school a part of its learning outreach for its student teachers. The MDC Earth Ethics Institute and the Environment Center have also offered valued resources in the form of educational support and a specific site location on the Kendall Campus.

For the next thirteen weeks you will be actively involved in one very involved design project from start to finish that will expose you to the following activities, ideas and concepts:

- a. Architectural Precedents – Tropical Architecture
- b. Sustainability
- c. Scale
- d. Materiality
- e. Interior & Industrial Design
- f. Architectural and Structural Design
- g. Landscape Design
- h. Graphic Design

At the end of the semester, you will be given the opportunity to present your design and ideas to parents, MDC administrators, fellow classmates, faculty, and practicing architects.