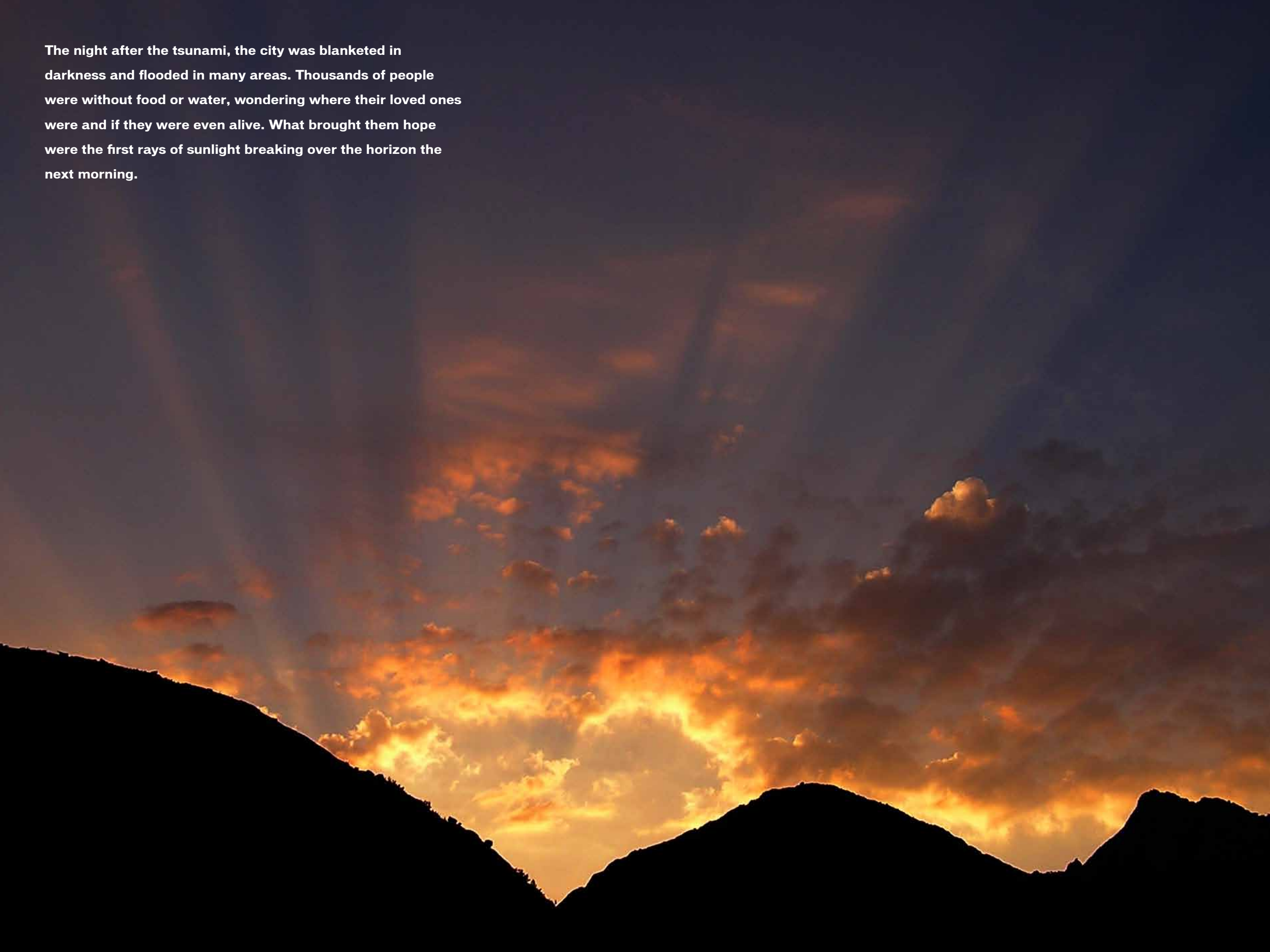


MATSUNAMI PARK ISHINOMAKI, JAPAN



The night after the tsunami, the city was blanketed in darkness and flooded in many areas. Thousands of people were without food or water, wondering where their loved ones were and if they were even alive. What brought them hope were the first rays of sunlight breaking over the horizon the next morning.



This area is important to the community's recovery, providing a place to gather, play and connect. Massive beams rise out of the earth, recalling the rays of sunlight that emerged on the horizon that first morning.



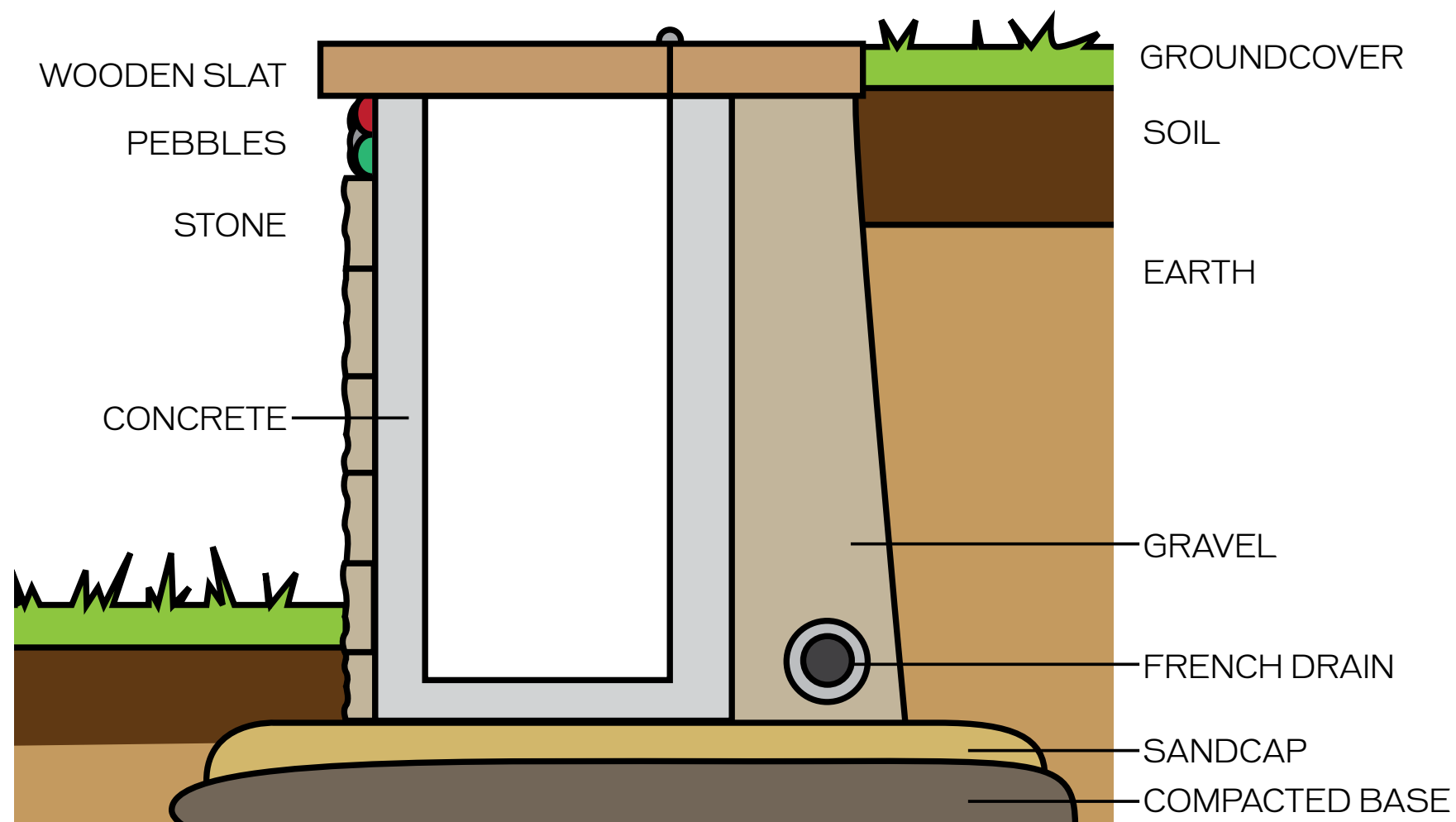
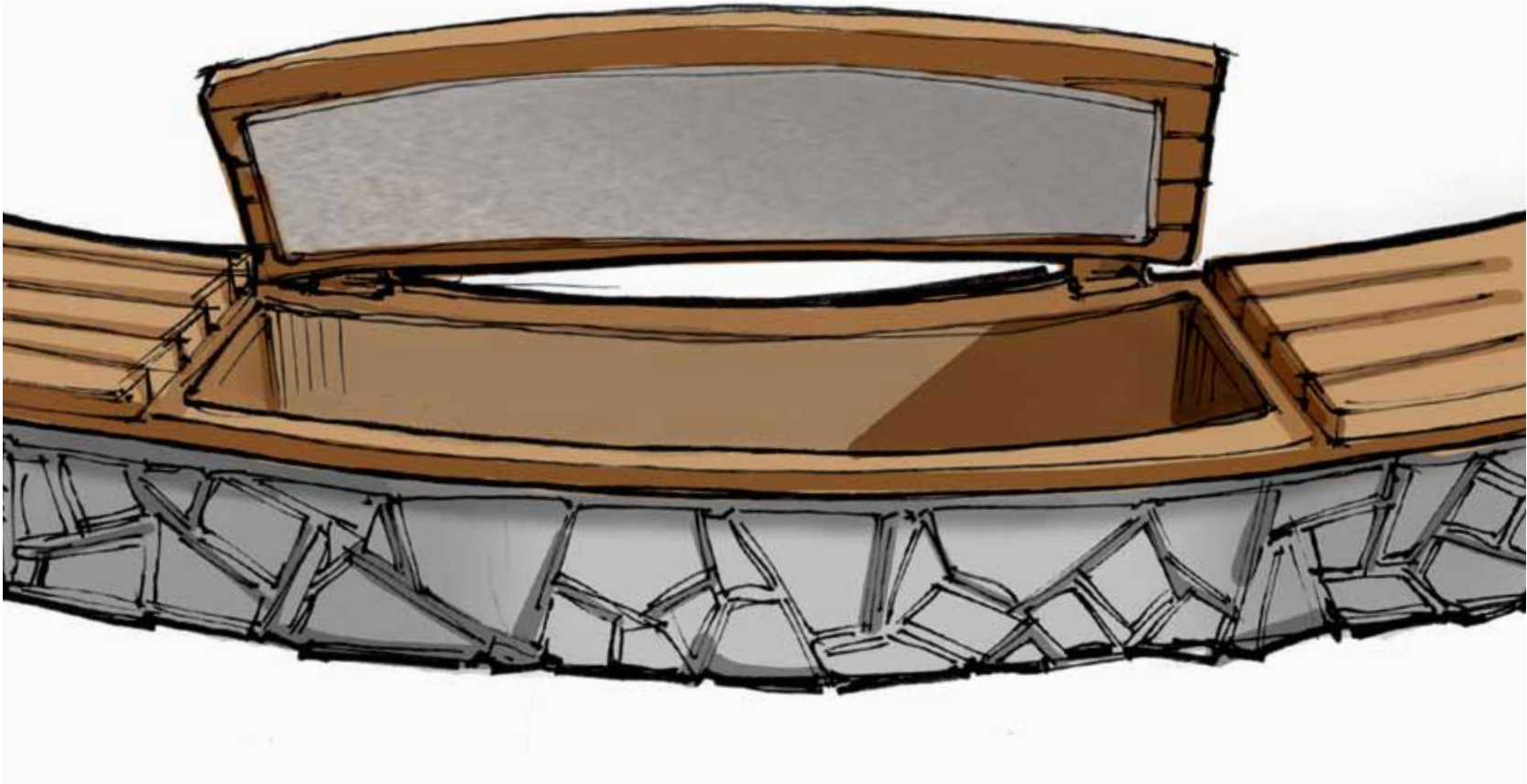
The entrance guides park visitors through a tunnel cut into raised ground. This dark and cool area stages visitors for the reveal of the park, where they enter surrounded by nature, children playing, adults socializing, and the beauty of the community.

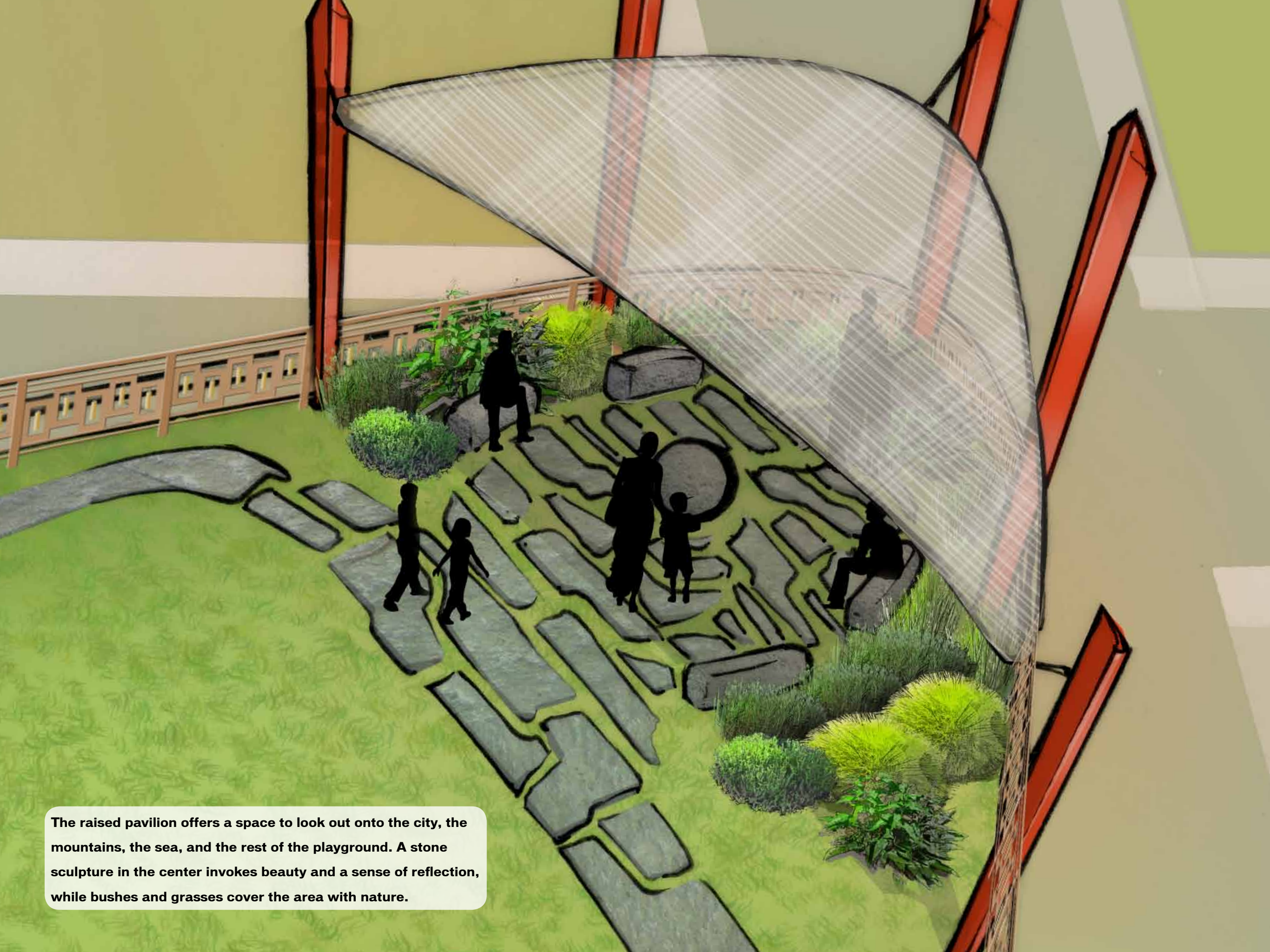




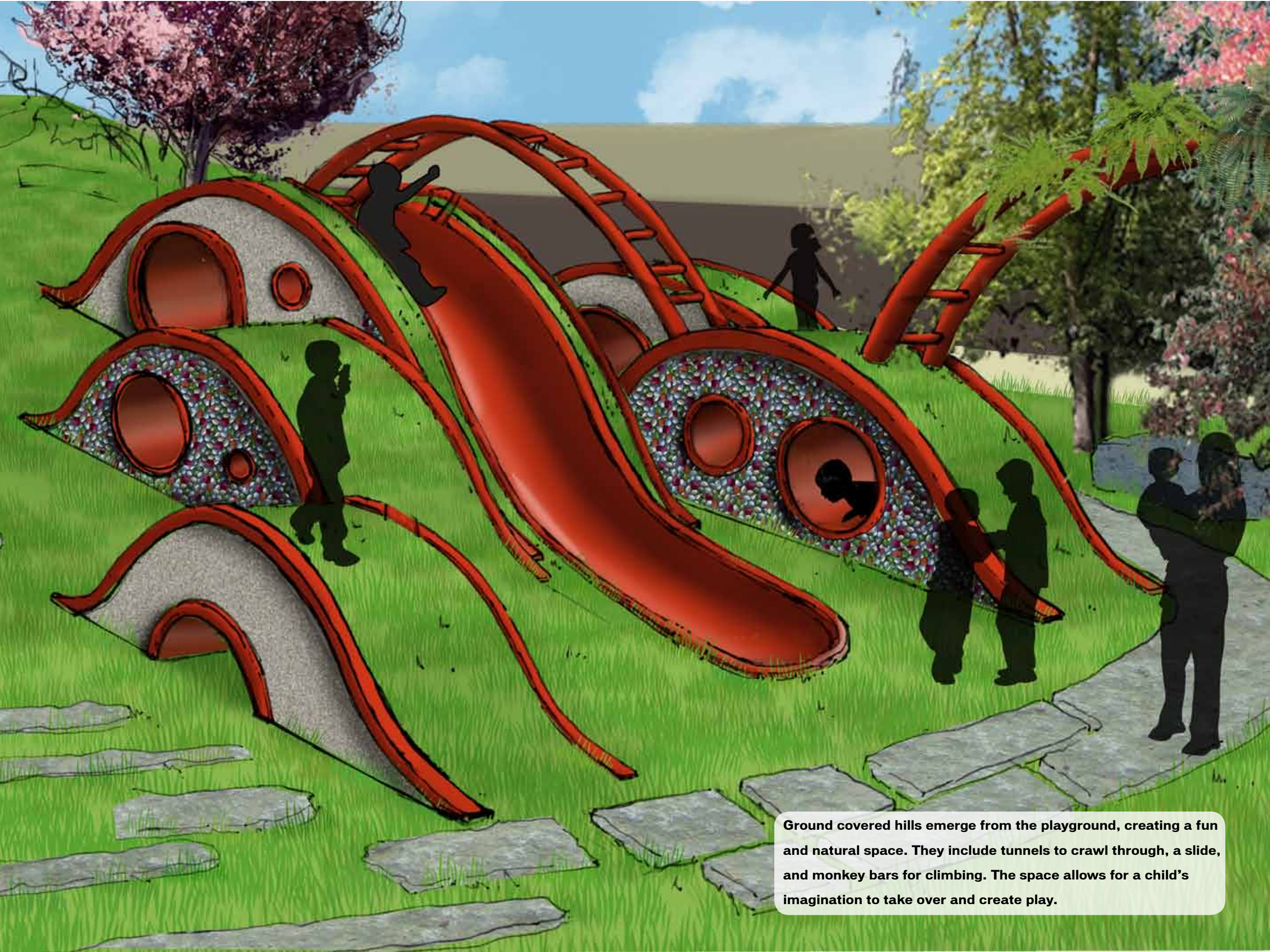
The garden is interactive for all generations. This space encourages community development and creates opportunity for recreation, exercise, therapy, and education. Permaculture methods can be used to create a sustainable agricultural garden and recreate fertile soil.

Colored pebble motif represents the many different elements of the community coming together. Storage and seating integrated into garden walls, and the terraces are constructed as retaining walls that create natural water retention.





The raised pavilion offers a space to look out onto the city, the mountains, the sea, and the rest of the playground. A stone sculpture in the center invokes beauty and a sense of reflection, while bushes and grasses cover the area with nature.



Ground covered hills emerge from the playground, creating a fun and natural space. They include tunnels to crawl through, a slide, and monkey bars for climbing. The space allows for a child's imagination to take over and create play.

