Product Design Engineering: a unique course at Swinburne University of Technology, Melbourne, Australia.

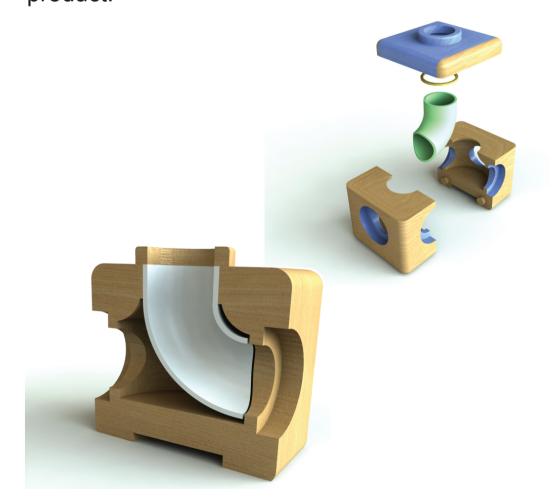
Tavrou, S., Kuys, B., Swinburne University of Technology

Project Case Study:

Auti-cubes: Early Childhood Developmental Toy

The Auti-cubes were conceived as a developmental toy, specifically designed for the needs of children with autism and other related developmental disorders. Using a range of sustainable materials and manufacturing methods, the Auti-cubes employ the use of exciting colours and textures to captivate the user with forms of exploratory and imaginative play. This play also aids these children with social and communication skills, helping them to interact and engage with their peers, parents and carers to improve the quality of essential life skills; skills that can otherwise be impaired due to the early onset of this disorder. The Auti-cubes exploit the use of tunnels within the blocks, designed to enable balls to run through each individual block. When stacked the Auti-cubes create one continuous tunnel for the balls to run through. Speciality

designed blocks within this set have triggers that stimulate a range of auditory and visual effects designed to aid the developmental purpose of this product.



Konrad Flecknoe-Brown: Final year Product Design Engineering project.