Kaitlin Kodack

CAD Project

Toddler Jungle Gym
I decided to make a toddler jungle gym as my personal CAD project for my Engineer Design class at Penn State. I decided not to make a replica, but make my own project all together. I got my inspiration from my niece, Kinzley; she will be two in March 2014. I realized that most of the outside jungle gyms were for kids ages six and older and must be accompanied by an adult. So clearly, she couldn’t play on them for a while. Then I thought about an indoor jungle gym, but the jungle gyms I found were very small. I wanted a jungle gym that she wouldn’t get tired of and grew up with her. That’s why I designed the toddler jungle gym the way that I did.
The most difficult part of the CAD project was coming up with the design that I wanted. Due to safety regulations and being made for ages two to six, it was difficult to create an indoor play area that wouldn’t take up much space and that the kids would love.

I love spending time with my niece when I go home on the weekends. Family means everything to me. Watching my niece having a great time is something I strive for. With my project, we can bond and I know that she will love it.

From this project, I learned how to go outside of my comfort zone to make a great product. It was challenging to think like a two or six year old and find their amusements.

I designed an indoor jungle gym with bright colors that children see in everyday life (blue, red, yellow, and green). The stairs are made of foam with plastic coating so that if they happen to fall, they wouldn’t get hurt. The slide, ball pit, tunnel and top bases are made of plastic LLDPE. 14 feet long by 6.3 feet wide by 5 feet tall. Assembly is required. Children will love to climb, slide, crawl, hide, and play in my new toddler jungle gym!

I enjoyed making this project. I hope that I can make another project similar to this in the future.