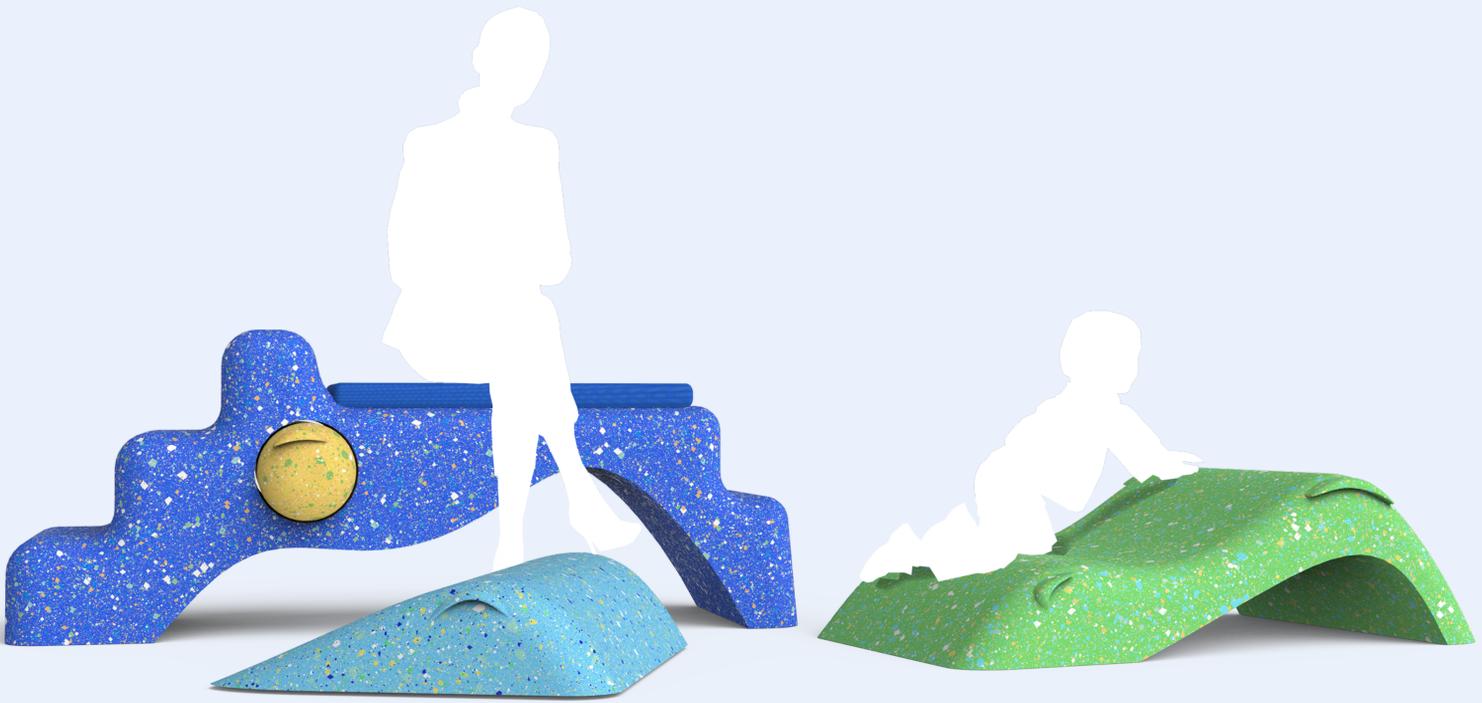


ATHENA

A student project by Maude Rosvang Andersen and Astrid Juhl
Industrial Design, Aalborg University



Which SDG does your project relate to?



Sustainable Development Goal nr. 3
– Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages

To solve the main issue regarding children being nervous and anxious while waiting for the doctor. The goal of the product is to use positive distraction in terms of play and imagination to ensure a great and playful experience for the children and, hereby, prevent them from suffering mentally and potentially physically.



Sustainable Development Goal nr. 12
– Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns

In order to make it desirable for hospitals, the product is made through sustainable production. This means that the product consists of reused plastics from the food industry without risking the content of toxins. The product is made through rotational molding which means that there is very little waste. Furthermore, the plastics used for the product can be melted and reused again for new products.



What is the concrete problem you have worked with?

Due to covid-19, hospitals have had an increased focus on hygiene. This has resulted in toys, games, and play furniture being removed from the children's department because it is too time consuming to clean the toys. For the 600.000 children who visit the outpatient clinics every year, this is an issue. The children are often nervous and anxious about visiting the doctor, and if they do not have any kind of entertainment while waiting, negative feelings can arise and cause the children to have a bad experience - and they may become more reluctant to see the doctor in the future. Therefore, it is crucial to create a product to elevate the well-being of the children while they wait.

The product, ATHENA, is a multifunctional play furniture developed in collaboration with hospitals and designed to entertain children while they wait. The cleaning and hygiene of ATHENA has been prioritized which is why the shape does not have any cracks and joints. This makes it easy for the hospital staff to clean it with the use of a single cloth. Meanwhile, the design still appeals to children's play.

There is not one specific way to use the play modules of ATHENA which invites the children to use their imagination. To ensure that the children feel safe while playing, a pillow is placed on top of the largest module for parents to be close by. The pillow can be removed for a completely imaginative, free play.

The three modules all have different weight. This allows the children to use them in completely different ways - they can practice their balance, jump around or do something completely different. ATHENA is made from reused plastic and can last approximately 10 years. Due to the choice of material, it is possible to get the product in many different colours allowing every customer to get a unique product that fits their exact needs.

What is your solution to the problem?