

## A Fresh Start

*Weekly Report 03/05/18 to 03/18/18*

This week has given me a wonderful opportunity to refresh and recharge so that I am ready to push forwards until I have completed my final product. I made great strides in the construction of my product, and now I am looking forward into the near future to my second observation visit, where I will be observing Pediatric OT.

After purchasing most of the remainder of the materials for the project, I have constructed the wooden framework, painted it, and begun working on the individual components. My dad supervised and offered advice while I used the power tools, and in the process I learned a great deal about carpentry skills. I also went to my aunt's house and borrowed her sewing machine to complete the sewing portion of my product. I sewed the cushions for the squishy chair, and in the process learned various new techniques to use with a sewing machine, especially how to fix it when it gets jammed. Finally, I installed the foam flooring and covered it with a layer of fabric, making sure to cut out holes in the places where various components are to be attached to the wood floor. Overall this experience has actually taught me a lot of skills that are useful in a household in general, including how to work dangerous machinery.

In the near future, I will also be observing previous interviewee Elissa Cashman at the Speech & Occupational Therapy of North Texas clinic in Frisco. I look forward greatly to this opportunity because it will be my first chance to observe OT applied to children. From this experience, I hope to get new insight into how I can modify elements of my final product to make it better suited and more effective for children.