Perspectives on Digital Fabrication and Making in Special Education

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**Perspectives**

Observations, discussions and engagement in special education for the past two years in the two projects Makerspace in school and Touch AT, have given rise to two perspectives:

1) The role of the teacher training in Digital fabrication and design thinking

2) The need to support knowledge sharing through a digital archive of teaching resources in digital fabrication for special education

**Touch AT!**

Aims to investigate how interactive assistive touch based technologies for children with special needs in grade 6-9 in special education schools can be designed.

Children in special education and their teachers participate as co-designers in the development process.

**Makerspace in School**

A large-scale national project in Sweden. 30 local education authorities (e.g. municipalities, businesses, science centers and academic partners) are involved in the project.

The aim is to contribute to the development of a new methodology for making where IT is the basic design material, and an understanding of how these technologies affect and mediate our lives and societies work on a more fundamental level.

**Open Discussion**

What role does the teacher training in digital fabrication and design thinking play in the special education classroom?

How do we best support knowledge sharing in digital fabrication in special education through digital archives?