WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A child play puzzle, comprising:

a set of pieces each defining a non-circular aperture therethrough;

a base; and

a pole extending from the base along a pole axis, the pole configured to sequentially receive each piece of the set of pieces with the pole extending through the aperture of each piece to form a stack of the pieces along the pole, the pole comprising a plurality of sections spaced along its length, each section being of non-circular cross-section in a plane perpendicular to the pole axis,

wherein at least one of the sections is rotatable about the pole axis with respect to an adjacent one of the sections, such that moving a piece from about the rotatable section to about the adjacent section requires rotationally aligning the rotatable section with the adjacent section,

wherein the adjacent section is rotationally fixed with respect to the base.

2. The child play puzzle of claim 1, wherein the adjacent section is disposed between the rotatable section and a second section rotatable about the pole axis with respect to the adjacent section such that moving the piece from about the adjacent section to about the second rotatable section requires rotationally aligning the second rotatable section with the adjacent section.

3. The child play puzzle of claim 2, wherein the second rotatable section is disposed between the adjacent section and a second adjacent one of the sections disposed between the base and the second rotatable section such that moving the piece from about the second rotatable section to about the second adjacent section requires rotationally aligning the second rotatable section with the second adjacent section.

4. The child play puzzle of claim 3, wherein the adjacent section is arranged offset with respect to the second adjacent section such that moving the piece from about the adjacent section to about the second adjacent section requires first rotationally aligning the second rotatable section with the adjacent section, and then rotationally aligning the second rotatable section with the second adjacent section.

5. The child play puzzle of claim 3, wherein the rotatable section and the second rotatable section comprise a first color and the adjacent section and the second adjacent section comprise a second color different than the first color.

6. The child play puzzle of claim 1, wherein each section of the plurality of sections is of a common cross-section shape and size, and wherein the non-circular aperture of each piece is of a size and shape to match the common cross-section shape and size of the sections.

7. The child play puzzle of claim 6, wherein each section of the plurality of sections defines a polygonal cross-section.

8. The child play puzzle of claim 1, wherein the pole is attached to the base so as to extend vertically with the base on a horizontal surface.

9. The child play puzzle of claim 8, wherein the pieces of the set have different overall widths, measured across their apertures.

10. The child play puzzle of claim 1, further comprising:

a second set of pieces each defining a non-circular aperture therethrough; and

a second pole spaced from the pole and extending from the base along a second pole axis, the second pole configured to sequentially receive each piece of the second set of pieces with the second pole extending through the aperture of each piece to form a stack of the pieces along the second pole, the second pole comprising a second plurality of sections spaced along its length, each section being of non-circular cross-section in a plane perpendicular to the pole axis,

wherein a first section of the second plurality of sections is rotationally misaligned with a second section of the second plurality of sections and spaced from the second section to define a gap therebetween, such that moving a piece from about the first section to about the second section requires rotationally aligning, at the gap, the piece with the second section.

11. The child play puzzle of claim 10, wherein the second plurality of sections are rotationally fixed with respect to each other.

12. The child play puzzle of claim 10, wherein each of the second plurality of sections comprises one or more ribs extending away from the second pole and along the second pole axis.

13. A child play puzzle set comprising:

a base;

a first play module supported on the base, the first play module comprising:

a first set of pieces each defining a non-circular aperture therethrough, and

a first pole extending from the base along a first pole axis, the first pole configured to sequentially receive each piece of the first set of pieces with the first pole extending through the aperture of each piece to form a stack of the pieces along the first pole, the first pole comprising a plurality of sections spaced along its length, each section being of non-circular cross-section in a plane perpendicular to the first pole axis,

wherein at least one of the sections is rotatable about the first pole axis with respect to an adjacent one of the sections, such that moving a piece from about the rotatable section to about the adjacent section requires rotationally aligning the rotatable section with the adjacent section;

a second play module supported on the base and spaced from the first play module, the second play module comprising:

a second set of pieces each defining a non-circular aperture therethrough, and

a second pole extending from the base along a second pole axis, the second pole configured to sequentially receive each piece of the second set of pieces with the second pole extending through the aperture of each piece to form a stack of the pieces along the second pole, the second pole comprising a second plurality of sections spaced along its length, each section being of non-circular cross-section in a plane perpendicular to the pole axis,

wherein a first section of the second plurality of sections is rotationally misaligned with a second section of the second plurality of sections and spaced from the second section to define a gap therebetween, such that moving a piece from about the first section to about the second section requires rotationally aligning, at the gap, the piece with the second section; and

a third play module supported on the base and spaced from the first play module, the third play module comprising:

a third set of pieces each defining a threaded aperture therethrough; and

a third pole extending from the base along a third pole axis, the third pole comprising an exterior thread and configured to threadedly receive each piece of the third set of pieces with the third pole extending through the aperture of each piece to form a stack of the pieces along the third pole.