

Structures: Year 2

Free Standing Structures

Key learning in design and technology

Prior learning

- Experience of using construction kits to build walls, towers and frameworks.
- Experience of using of basic tools e.g. scissors or hole punches with construction materials e.g. plastic, card.
- Experience of different methods of joining card and paper.

Designing

- Generate ideas based on simple design criteria and their own experiences, explaining what they could make.
- Develop, model and communicate their ideas through talking, mock-ups and drawings.

Making

- Plan by suggesting what to do next.
- Select and use tools, skills and techniques, explaining their choices.
- Select new and reclaimed materials and construction kits to build their structures.
- Use simple finishing techniques suitable for the structure they are creating.

Evaluating

- Explore a range of existing freestanding structures in the school and local environment e.g. everyday products and buildings.
- Evaluate their product by discussing how well it works in relation to the purpose, the user and whether it meets the original design criteria.

Technical knowledge and understanding

- Know how to make freestanding structures stronger, stiffer and more stable.
- Know and use technical vocabulary relevant to the project.



Key vocabulary

Investigative and Evaluative Activities (IEAs)

- Go on a walk and/or look at photographs of the local area to explore structures such as playground equipment, street furniture, walls, towers and bridges e.g. *What are the structures called and what is their purpose? Who might use them? What materials have been used? Why have these been chosen? How have the parts been joined together? How have the structures been made strong enough? How have they been made stable?*
- Where possible, ask the children to draw or photograph the structures they have been exploring and label with the correct technical vocabulary in relation to the structure, materials used and shapes e.g. wall, tower, framework, base, joint, metal, wood, plastic, brick, triangle, square, rectangle, cuboid, cube

Focused Tasks (FTs)

- Demonstrate measuring, marking out, cutting, shaping, joining and finishing techniques with a range of tools and new and reclaimed materials that children are likely to use to make their structures. Discuss the suitability of materials for their products according to their characteristics.
- Ask the children to build and explore a variety of freestanding structures using construction kits, such as wooden blocks, interconnecting plastic bricks and those that make frameworks e.g. *How can you stop your structures from falling over? How they can be made stronger and stiffer in order to carry a load?* Children could make models of the structures they have seen in school and the local area.
- Ask children to fold paper or card in different ways to make freestanding structures, using masking tape where necessary to make joins. Encourage them to think about how folding materials can make them stronger, stiffer, stand up and be more stable e.g. *Can they support an object on top of their structures without it falling over or breaking?*

Design, Make and Evaluate Assignment (DMEA)

- Discuss with the children what structure they will be designing, making and evaluating e.g. *Who will your product be for? What will be its purpose? What materials will you use? How will you make it strong and stable?*
- Generate some simple design criteria with the children e.g. the structure should stand up on its own, it should be strong enough to carry Teddy.
- Encourage the children to develop their ideas through talking, drawing and making mock-ups of their ideas with construction kits and other materials.
- As a whole class, plan the order in which the structures will be made. Children could make their final products from construction kits, new and reclaimed materials or any combination of these, according to their characteristics.
- Ask children to evaluate their developing ideas and final products against original design criteria.

Mechanical systems: Year 2

Wheels and axles

Key learning in design and technology

Prior learning

- Assembled vehicles with moving wheels using construction kits.
- Explored moving vehicles through play.
- Gained some experience of designing, making and evaluating products for a specified user and purpose.
- Developed some cutting, joining and finishing skills with card.

Designing

- Generate initial ideas and simple design criteria through talking and using own experiences.
- Develop and communicate ideas through drawings and mock-ups.

Making

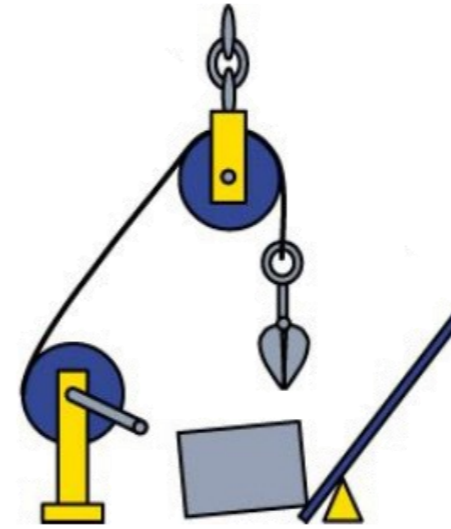
- Select from and use a range of tools and equipment to perform practical tasks such as cutting and joining to allow movement and finishing.
- Select from and use a range of materials and components such as paper, card, plastic and wood according to their characteristics.

Evaluating

- Explore and evaluate a range of products with wheels and axles.
- Evaluate their ideas throughout and their products against original criteria.

Technical knowledge and understanding

- Explore and use wheels, axles and axle holders.
- Distinguish between fixed and freely moving axles.
- Know and use technical vocabulary relevant to the project.



Key vocabulary

Vehicle, wheel, axle, axle holder, chassis, body, cab

Assembling, cutting, joining, shaping, finishing, fixed, free, moving, mechanism

Names of tools, equipment and materials used

Design, make, evaluate, purpose, user, criteria, functional

Investigative and Evaluative Activities (IEAs)

Explore and evaluate a range of wheeled products such as toys and everyday objects. Through questioning, direct children's observations e.g. the number, size, position and methods of fixing wheels and axles. *How do you think the wheels move? How do you think the wheels are fixed on? Why do you think the product has this number of wheels? Why do you think the wheels are round?*

- Draw an example of a wheeled product, stating the user and purpose, and labelling the main parts e.g. body, chassis, wheels, axles and axle holders.
- Walk around the school building and grounds, recording how wheels and axles are used in daily life.
- Read a story or non-fiction book that includes a wheeled product. Use this to introduce relevant vocabulary and to emphasise user and purpose.

Focused Tasks (FTs)

- Using construction kits with wheels and axles, ask children to make a product that moves.
- Demonstrate to children how wheels and axles may be assembled as either fixed axles or free axles.
- Show different ways of making axle holders and stress the importance of making sure the axles run freely within the holders.
- Ensure that children are taught how to mark out, hold, cut and join materials and components correctly.
- Using samples of materials and components they will use when designing and making, ask the children to assemble some examples of wheel, axle, axle holder combinations. Display the work completed as a reference for their DMEA.

Design, Make and Evaluate Assignment (DMEA)

- Discuss with the children what they will be designing, making and evaluating within an authentic context.
- With the children identify a user and purpose for the product and generate simple criteria.
- Ask children to generate, develop and communicate their ideas as appropriate e.g. through talk and drawing. Talk about, evaluate and share ideas with other children/adults.
- Make their wheel and axle product using their design ideas and criteria as an ongoing guide.
- Discuss how the children might add finishing techniques to their product with reference to their design ideas and criteria. Direct the children to information and communication technology opportunities such as clip art, word processing, paint or simple drawing programs.
- Ask children to evaluate their finished product, communicating how it works and how it matches their design criteria, including any changes they made.

Food: Year 2

Preparing fruit and vegetables

Key learning in design and technology

Prior learning

- Experience of common fruit and vegetables, undertaking sensory activities i.e. appearance taste and smell.
- Experience of cutting soft fruit and vegetables using appropriate utensils.

Designing

- Design appealing products for a particular user based on simple design criteria.
- Generate initial ideas and design criteria through investigating a variety of fruit and vegetables.
- Communicate these ideas through talk and drawings.

Making

- Use simple utensils and equipment to e.g. peel, cut, slice, squeeze, grate and chop safely.
- Select from a range of fruit and vegetables according to their characteristics e.g. colour, texture and taste to create a chosen product.

Evaluating

- Taste and evaluate a range of fruit and vegetables to determine the intended user's preferences.
- Evaluate ideas and finished products against design criteria, including intended user and purpose.

Technical knowledge and understanding

- Understand where a range of fruit and vegetables come from e.g. farmed or grown at home.
- Understand and use basic principles of a healthy and varied diet to prepare dishes, including how fruit and vegetables are part of *The eatwell plate*.
- Know and use technical and sensory vocabulary relevant to the project.



Key vocabulary

Fruit and vegetable names, names of equipment and utensils

Sensory vocabulary e.g. soft, juicy, crunchy, sweet, sticky, smooth, sharp, crisp, sour, hard

Fresh, skin, seed, pip, core, slicing, peeling, cutting, squeezing, healthy diet, choosing, ingredients, planning, investigating tasting, arranging, popular, design, evaluate, criteria

Investigative and Evaluative Activities (IEAs)

- Children examine a range of fruit/vegetables. Use questions to develop children's understanding e.g. *What is this called? Who has eaten this fruit/vegetable before? Where is it grown? When can it be harvested? What are its taste, smell, texture and appearance? What will it look like if we peel it or cut it in half? What are the different parts called?*
- Provide opportunities for children to handle, smell and taste fruit and vegetables in order to describe them through talking and drawing. e.g. *What words can we use to describe the shape, colour, feel, taste?*
- Evaluate existing products to determine what the children like best; provide opportunities for the children to investigate preferences of their intended users/suitability for intended purposes e.g. *What do you prefer and why? What might we want to include in our product to meet our user's preferences? Which fruit/vegetables might be the best for our product to match the occasion/purpose?*

Focused Tasks (FTs)

- Discuss basic food hygiene practices when handling food including the importance of following instructions to control risk e.g. *What should we do before we work with food? Why is following instructions important?*
- Demonstrate how to use simple utensils and provide opportunities for the children to practise food-processing skills such as washing, grating, peeling, slicing, squeezing e.g. *Do we eat the whole fruit? Why or why not? Which parts do we eat? What might we have to do before eating this? Why do we cut, grate, peel and slice in this way?* Discuss different effects achieved by different processes.
- Discuss healthy eating advice, including eating more fruit and vegetables; using *The eatwell plate* model talk about the importance of fruit and vegetables in our balanced diet e.g. *Why is it good to eat fruit and vegetables? How many pieces of fruit/vegetables do you eat per day? Why is it important to wash fruit/vegetables before we eat them?*

Design, Make and Evaluate Assignment (DMEA)

- Set a context for designing and making which is authentic and meaningful.
- Discuss with the children the possible products that they might want to design, make and evaluate and who the products will be for. Agree on design criteria that can be used to guide the development and evaluation of children's products e.g. *Who/what is the product for? What will make our product unique/different? How will we know that we designed and made a successful product?*
- Use talk and drawings when planning for a product; ask the children to develop, model and communicate their ideas e.g. *What will you need? What fruit/vegetable will you need? How much will you need? How will you present the product?*
- Talk to the children about the main stages in making, considering appropriate utensils and food processes they learnt about through IEAs and FTs.
- Evaluate as the children work through the project and the final products against the intended purpose and with the intended user, drawing on the design criteria previously agreed.
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