

Structures: Year 3

Shell Structures

Key learning in design and technology

Prior learning

- Experience of using different joining, cutting and finishing techniques with paper and card.
- A basic understanding of 2-D and 3-D shapes in mathematics and the physical properties and everyday uses of materials in science.

Designing

- Generate realistic ideas and design criteria collaboratively through discussion, focusing on the needs of the user and purpose of the product.
- Develop ideas through the analysis of existing products and use annotated sketches and prototypes to model and communicate ideas.

Making

- Order the main stages of making.
- Select and use appropriate tools to measure, mark out, cut, score, shape and assemble with some accuracy.
- Explain their choice of materials according to functional properties and aesthetic qualities.
- Use finishing techniques suitable for the product they are creating.

Evaluating

- Investigate and evaluate a range of existing shell structures including the materials, components and techniques that have been used.
- Test and evaluate their own products against design criteria and the intended user and purpose.

Technical knowledge and understanding

- Develop and use knowledge of how to construct strong, stiff shell structures.
- Develop and use knowledge of nets of cubes and cuboids and, where appropriate, more complex 3D shapes.
- Know and use technical vocabulary relevant to the project.



Key vocabulary

Shell structure, three-dimensional (3-D) shape, net, cube, cuboid, prism, vertex, edge, face, length, width, breadth, capacity

Marking out, scoring, shaping, tabs, adhesives, joining, assemble, accuracy, material, stiff, strong, reduce, reuse, recycle, corrugating, ribbing, laminating

Font, lettering, text, graphics, decision, evaluating, design brief design criteria, innovative, prototype

Investigative and Evaluative Activities (IEAs)

- Children investigate a collection of different shell structures including packaging. Use questions to develop children's understanding e.g. *What is the purpose of the shell structure – protecting, containing, presenting? What material is it made from? How has it been constructed? Are the materials recyclable or reusable? How has it been stiffened i.e. folded, corrugated, ribbed, laminated? What size/shape/colour is it? What information does it show and why? How attractive is the design?*
- Children take a small package apart identifying and discussing parts of a net including the tabs e.g. *How are different faces of the package arranged? How are the tabs used to join the 'free' edges of the net?*
- Evaluate existing products to determine which designs children think are the most effective. Provide opportunities for the children to judge the suitability of the shell structures for their intended users and purposes. Discuss graphics including colours/impact of style/logo/size of font e.g. *What do you prefer*

Focused Tasks (FTs)

- Children use kit parts with flat faces to construct nets. Practise making nets out of card, joining flat faces with masking tape to create 3-D shapes. Experiment with assembling in nets in numerous ways.
- Demonstrate skills and techniques of scoring, cutting out and assembling using pre-drawn nets. Then allow children to practise by constructing a simple box. Show how a window could be cut out and acetate sheet added.
- Demonstrate how to use different ways of stiffening and strengthening their shell structures e.g. folding and shaping, corrugating, ribbing, laminating. Provide opportunities for the children to practise these and to carry out tests to find out where their structures might need to be strengthened or stiffened.
- Children discuss and explore the graphics techniques and media that could be used to achieve the desired appearance of their products.

Design, Make and Evaluate Assignment (DMEA)

- Develop a design brief with the children within a context which is authentic and meaningful.
- Discuss with the children the uses and purposes of their shell structures e.g. *What does the product need to do? Who is it aimed at? How will the purpose and user affect your design decisions? Agree on design criteria that can be used to guide the development and evaluation of children's products e.g. How will we know that we have designed and made successful products?*
- Ask the children to use annotated sketches and prototypes to develop, model and communicate their ideas for the product e.g. *What will you need to include in your design? How can you improve it? What materials will you use? How will you make sure your product works well and has the right appearance?*
- Ask children to identify the main stages of making and the appropriate tools and skills they learnt through focused tasks. Encourage the children to work with accuracy, using computer-aided design (CAD) where appropriate.

Electrical systems: Year 3

Simple circuits and switches

Key learning in design and technology

Prior learning

- Constructed a simple series electrical circuit in science, using bulbs, switches and buzzers.
- Cut and joined a variety of construction materials, such as wood, card, plastic, reclaimed materials and glue.

Designing

- Gather information about needs and wants, and develop design criteria to inform the design of products that are fit for purpose, aimed at particular individuals or groups.
- Generate, develop, model and communicate realistic ideas through discussion and, as appropriate, annotated sketches, cross-sectional and exploded diagrams.

Making

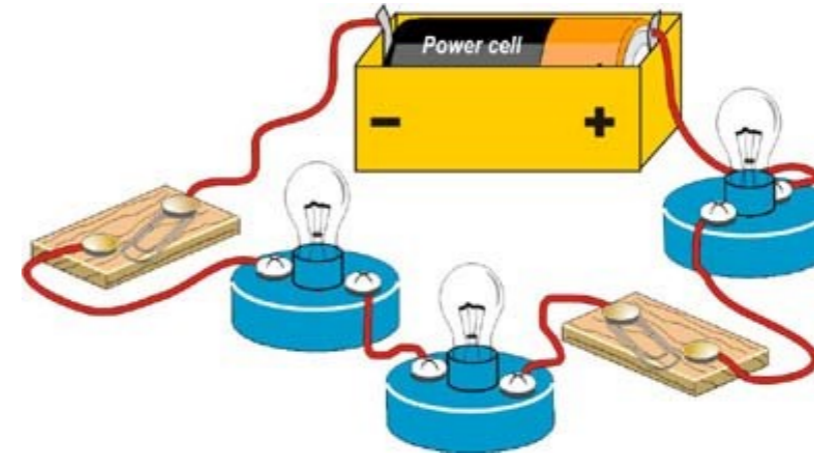
- Order the main stages of making.
- Select from and use tools and equipment to cut, shape, join and finish with some accuracy.
- Select from and use materials and components, including construction materials and electrical components according to their functional properties and aesthetic qualities.

Evaluating

- Investigate and analyse a range of existing battery-powered products.
- Evaluate their ideas and products against their own design criteria and identify the strengths and areas for improvement in their work.

Technical knowledge and understanding

- Understand and use electrical systems in their products, such as series circuits incorporating switches, bulbs and buzzers.
- Apply their understanding of computing to program and control their products.



Key vocabulary

Series circuit, fault, connection, toggle switch, push-to-make switch, push-to-break switch, battery, battery holder, bulb, bulb holder, wire, insulator, conductor, crocodile clip

Control, program, system, input device, output device

Investigative and Evaluative Activities (IEAs)

- Discuss, investigate and, where practical, disassemble different examples of relevant battery-powered products, including those which are commercially available e.g. *Where and why they are used? How does the product work? What are its key features and components? How does the switch work? Is the product manually controlled or controlled by a computer? What materials have been used and why? How is it suited to its intended user and purpose?*
 - Ask children to investigate examples of switches, including those which are commercially available, which work in different ways e.g. push-to-make, push-to-break, toggle switch. Let the children use them in simple circuits e.g. *How might different types of switches be useful in different types of products?*
 - Remind children about the dangers of mains electricity.

Focused Tasks (FTs)

- Recap with the children how to make manually controlled, simple series circuits with batteries and different types of switches, bulbs and buzzers. Discuss which of the components in the circuit are input devices e.g. switches, and which are output devices e.g. bulbs and buzzers.
 - Demonstrate how to find a fault in a simple circuit and correct it, giving pupils opportunities to practise.
 - Use a simple computer control program with an interface box or standalone control box to physically control output devices e.g. bulbs and buzzers.
 - Ask the children to make a variety of switches by using simple classroom materials e.g. card, corrugated plastic, aluminium foil, paper fasteners and paper clips. Encourage children to make switches that operate in different ways e.g. when you press them, when you turn them, when you push them from side to side. Ask the children to test their switches in a simple series circuit.
 - Teach children how to avoid making short circuits.

Design, Make and Evaluate Assignment (DMEA)

- Develop a design brief with the children within a context which is authentic and meaningful.
- Discuss with children the purpose of the battery-powered products that they will be designing and making and who they will be for. Ask the children to generate a range of ideas, encouraging realistic responses. Agree on design criteria that can be used to guide the development and evaluation of the children's products, including safety features.
- Using annotated sketches, cross-sectional and exploded diagrams, as appropriate, ask the children to develop, model and communicate their ideas.
- Ask the children to consider the main stages in making and testing before assembling high quality products, drawing on the knowledge, understanding and skills learnt through IEAs and FTs.
- Evaluate throughout and the final products against the intended purpose and with the intended user, drawing on the design criteria previously agreed.

Mechanical systems: Year 3

Levers and linkages

Key learning in design and technology

Prior learning

- Explored and used mechanisms such as flaps, sliders and levers.
- Gained experience of basic cutting, joining and finishing techniques with paper and card.

Designing

- Generate realistic ideas and their own design criteria through discussion, focusing on the needs of the user.
- Use annotated sketches and prototypes to develop, model and communicate ideas.

Making

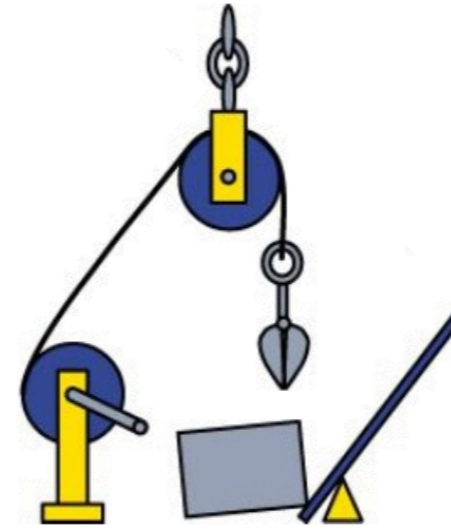
- Order the main stages of making.
- Select from and use appropriate tools with some accuracy to cut, shape and join paper and card.
- Select from and use finishing techniques suitable for the product they are creating.

Evaluating

- Investigate and analyse books and, where available, other products with lever and linkage mechanisms.
- Evaluate their own products and ideas against criteria and user needs, as they design and make.

Technical knowledge and understanding

- Understand and use lever and linkage mechanisms.
- Distinguish between fixed and loose pivots.
- Know and use technical vocabulary relevant to the project.



Key vocabulary

Mechanism, lever, linkage, pivot, slot, bridge, guide

System, input, process, output

Linear, rotary, oscillating, reciprocating

User, purpose, function

Prototype, design criteria, innovative, appealing, design brief

Investigative and Evaluative Activities (IEAs)

- Children investigate, analyse and evaluate books and, where available, other products which have a range of lever and linkage mechanisms.
- Use questions to develop children's understanding e.g. *Who might it be for? What is its purpose? What do you think will move? How will you make it move? What part moved and how did it move? How do you think the mechanism works? What materials have been used? How effective do you think it is and why? What else could move?*

Focused Tasks (FTs)

- Demonstrate a range of lever and linkage mechanisms to the children using prepared teaching aids.
- Use questions to develop children's understanding e.g. *Which card strip is the lever? Which card strip is acting as the linkage? Which part of the system is the input and which part the output? What does the type of movement remind you of? Which are the fixed pivots and which are the loose pivots?*
- Demonstrate the correct and accurate use of measuring, marking out, cutting, joining and finishing skills and techniques.
- Children should develop their knowledge and skills by replicating one or more of the teaching aids.

Design, Make and Evaluate Assignment (DMEA)

- Develop a design brief with the children within a context which is authentic and meaningful.
- Discuss with children the purpose of the products they will be designing and making and who the products will be for. Ask the children to generate a range of ideas, encouraging creative responses. Agree on design criteria that can be used to guide the development and evaluation of the children's products.
- Using annotated sketches and prototypes, ask the children to develop, model and communicate their ideas.
- Ask the children to consider the main stages in making before assembling high quality products, drawing on the knowledge, understanding and skills learnt through IEAs and FTs.
- Evaluate the final products against the intended purpose and with the intended user, drawing on the design criteria previously agreed.