

Skills Progression for Design and Technology

Strand	Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Design	Use senses to explore a wide range of familiar products. Take simple products apart and talk about their parts and how they work. Talk about and/or use construction materials, pictures and words to plan and design. Talk about what has been done/made in simple terms.	Use knowledge of existing products to support plans for a similar product. Describe, explore and investigate products that have been disassembled. Use construction kits, pictures, templates, mock ups and captions to plan and design. Talk about and describe the tools and materials needed in order complete the key tasks within a plan.	Use knowledge of a range of products to inform plans and designs. Talk about and disassemble products and describe their function. Use simple prototypes, labelled sketches and detailed instructions in plans and designs. Talk in depth about ideas, plans and reasons for choices.	Use research to develop design criteria that are fit for purpose. Disassemble products and describe in detail their functions. Use annotated sketches, cross-sectional, exploded diagrams and increasingly complex prototypes. Support discussions about ideas, plans and designs with relevant information.	Generate plans and designs based on research and ideas that take account of the users' views and the intended purpose. Produce detailed designs and plans using prototypes, commentary and diagrams that include accurate measurements. Link discussions about ideas, plans and designs to the investigation, disassembly and evaluation of a range of products describing in detail their parts and their function.	Clarify and justify plans, designs and ideas by drawing upon and using a range of relevant sources of information. Produce detailed designs and plans drawn to scale from a range of viewpoints, using pattern pieces and computer-aided design packages effectively. Discuss ways in which ideas, plans and designs are formed and modify to ensure that the design criteria are met effectively.	Use research and exploration, such as the study of different cultures, to identify and understand user needs. Develop and communicate ideas using annotated sketches, detailed plans, 3D and mathematical modelling, oral and digital presentations and computer- based tools. Use a variety of approaches, e.g. biomimicry and usercentred design to generate creative ideas and avoid stereotypical responses.
Make	Use the senses to explore and talk about materials. Use simple tools and materials with support.	Explore and talk about the characteristics of an increasing range of materials. Select and use simple	Select materials and components according to known characteristics and functions. Select and use an	Select from and use a wide range of materials and components according to both functional and aesthetic qualities.	Select a range of appropriate tools to cut, shape and join materials and components effectively.	Select a range of appropriate tools to cut, shape and join materials and components with accuracy and precision.	Select from and use a wider, more complex range of materials, components and ingredients, taking account of their properties.
	Cut paper/card using scissors.	tools to cut and join a range of materials. Use a straight edge to	increasing range of tools to cut, shape and join materials and components.	Select and use tools and equipment to measure, mark out and shape	Select and use tools and equipment to measure, mark out and shape materials and	Use an increasing range of tools and equipment to measure, mark out and shape materials and	Select from and use specialist tools, techniques, processes, equipment and machinery
	Join with tape or glue. Roll paper and card to form	mark lines for cutting. Join edge to edge using glue.	Use a ruler to measure and mark lines for cutting.	materials and components.	components accurately. Use a G clamp effectively.	components accurately. Use a drill to make an off-	precisely, including computer- aided manufacture.
	a tube.	Curl paper.	Make and use gluing tabs.	Use a hack saw and bench hook safely.	Join and combine	centre hole.	Use a broad range of manufacturing techniques
	Add paper and card shapes to products.	Use a hole punch and	Make simple paper models, mock-ups and templates.	Insert paper fasteners for card linkages.	materials and components in permanent and	Join and combine a range of materials and components using the most	including handcrafted skills and machinery to manufacture products
	Apply simple finishes e.g. paint, PVA glue	stapler.	Select an appropriate way	Make increasingly	temporary ways.	effective permanent and temporary way.	precisely.
	glaze.	Select from a range a finish to improve the	to improve the appearance of a product.	complex paper models, mock-ups and templates.	Make a range of complex paper models, mock-ups	Make and adapt where	Produce ordered sequences and schedules

	and hygiene.	Follow procedures for safety and hygiene.	Follow procedures for safety and hygiene.	Select the most effective finish to enhance the appearance of a product. Follow procedures for safety and hygiene.	Produce a well-finished product that fulfils the functional and aesthetic design criteria. Follow procedures for safety and hygiene.	ups and templates. Identify and apply an appropriate finishing technique to ensure a high quality end product which meeting the design criteria. Follow procedures for safety and hygiene.	products, detailing resources required. Produce costings using spreadsheets for products they design and make. Exploit the use of CAD/CAM equipment to manufacture products, increasing standards of quality, scale of production and precision. Follow procedures for safety and hygiene and understand the process of risk assessment.
Evaluate	Use the senses to explore a wide range of familiar products. Talk about familiar products and what they do. Talk about what has been made and the steps taken to achieve the outcome.	Talk about and describe key features of a range of products. Explore and evaluate a range of existing products. Begin to evaluate the success of the product in terms of function and aesthetic criteria.	Investigate and compare a range of similar existing products. Compare and contrast the similarities and differences of products with the same function. Evaluate ideas and products against design criteria; and suggest ways in which products can be improved.	Investigate and begin to analyse a range of existing products. Use knowledge of similarities and differences between products with the same function to support identification of most effective product. Evaluate ideas and products against own design criteria, taking into account the views of others.	Investigate and use analysis of existing products to inform own work. Identify from a range the key features and functions needed to create an effective and efficient working product. Give reasons, supported by factual evidence for the success of aspects of a product.	Use analysis of existing products supported by accurate factual information to inform own work. Test and evaluate products to identify the variants which may affect the function of a product. Give reasons, supported by factual evidence for the success of aspects of a product and provide considered solutions to resolve those parts that could be improved.	Understand developments in D&T, its impact on individuals, society and the environment. Test, evaluate and refine ideas and products against a specification, taking into account the views of intended users. Analyse the work of past and present professionals and others to develop and broaden understanding. Investigate new and emerging technologies.
	Explore and talk about produ designers, engineers, chefs a vacuum cleaner.	Lucts made by famous inventors, nd manufacturers, e.g. the	Gain an understanding of the have impacted on the develo further development of own	Relate the work of designers, engineers, chefs, technologists and manufactures to own products and designs.			

Axles, Pulleys and Gears	Use junk modelling materials to build boxes. Use simple construction materials to make a vehicle. Explore and use construction kits containing gears.	Deconstruct and reconstruct boxes accurately. Attach wheels to a chassis using an axle, e.g. cotton reels and dowel. Use pencils or tubes as rollers to move an object across the floor.	Construct cubes of different sizes from a net. With support attach a fixed axle to a chassis and add wheels ensuring that they can move freely. Construct a simple pulley using rope over a horizontal bar to raise an object off the ground. Use construction kits with gears to construct a line of gears that turn.	Construct cuboids of different sizes from a net. Attach a fixed axle to a chassis and add wheels ensuring that they can move freely. Construct a pulley that allows a load to travel horizontally along a rope. Use construction kits with gears to mesh gears at right angles.	Describe in detail the way in which an axle and chassis help a vehicle to move. Use a range of different ways to attach an axle to a chassis, e.g. card triangles, drilled holes, cable clips and clothes pegs. Identify, describe and evaluate products that contain pulleys and drive belts. Create pulleys and drive systems that can be driven by motor and computer.	Design and build a working model where the direction of movement can be controlled, e.g. with a chassis with a pivoting axle. Explain how a belt and pulley system can be used to reverse the direction of rotation, and alter the plane of rotation by 90 degrees. Explain how the number of teeth of a gear affects the speed of rotation.	Understand and use the properties of materials and the performance of structural elements to achieve functioning solutions. Understand how more advance mechanical systems used in their product enable changes in movement and force.
Electrical and Mechanical Components	Use the senses to explore battery powered toys, e.g. cars, trains, tills etc. Talk about electrical equipment in the home, e.g., kettle, telephone, and microwave. Explore the use of bulbs, wires and batteries.	Use remote controlled devices, e.g. a remote controlled vehicle, Bee bot etc. Talk about how common electrical equipment works, e.g., kettle, telephone, and microwave. Talk how equipment can be used safely. Create a simple circuit using a battery, bulb and wires.	Describe how a simple battery powered circuit can be controlled by different kinds of switches. Talk about simple electrical safety. Create simple circuits incorporating a battery, bulb, switch, buzzer and wires.	Explore and describe how an electric motor can be used in a circuit. Identify key features of electrical safety. Use a remote-controlled device to switch lights on and off.(including computer control packages)	Explore and describe how electrical circuits can be created and controlled. Discuss in depth the hazards and safety issues associated with electricity. Explore and explain how the direction and speed of an electrical motor can be controlled. Explore and program a simple control device.	Explore and describe how switches can be used in a range of circuits to control components, e.g. lights in a lighthouse, a movement sensor in a burglar alarm. Apply appropriate safety measures when constructing circuits. Explore and discuss ways in which electricity can be used to control movement. Explore and use an increasing range of complex control system, e.g., a light sensor.	Use computer-based systems to control an increasing range of components Apply computing and use of electronics to embed intelligence in products that respond to inputs. Control outputs such as actuators and motors. Make use of sensors to detect heat, light, sound and movement.
Food Technology	Sort fruit and vegetables by taste, shape, size, colour, texture and simple food groups, e.g. meat, vegetables etc. Talk about the changes that take place when food is shaped and mixed.	Sort and classify food into food groups, e.g. vegetables, pulses, cereals, dairy etc. Talk about what happens when food is heated and cooled. Measure and weigh accurately using cups	Sort and classify an increasing range of food according to specific food groups, e.g. proteins, carbohydrates, fats etc. Talk about what needs to be done in order to work safely and hygienically.	Gain an understanding of the ways in which specific food groups apply to the principles of a health and varied diet. Identify what needs to be done in order to work safely and hygienically when working on a range of tasks.	Understand seasonality, know where and how a variety of ingredients are grown, reared, caught and processed. Talk about and give reasons for the need to work safely and hygienically.	Talk about how the properties of certain foods can affect the final product. Know and understand the practice needed in terms of food hygiene and kitchen safety.	Understand the source, seasonality and characteristics of a broad range of ingredients. Understand the principles of cleaning to prevent cross-contamination, chilling foods thoroughly and reheating food until steaming hot.

	Use basic tools to cut, shape	and spoons.					
	and mix, e.g. cutters/whisks.	Work safely and hygienically.	Measure and weigh using standard units and scales. Discuss about the way in which food processing can affect the taste, appearance, texture and colour of food.	Convert measure and weigh using standard and imperial units. Give reasons for the way in which food processing can affect the taste, appearance, texture and colour of food.	Talk about the impact of changing proportions within a recipe and use knowledge of food and cooking to generate own recipes. Talk in scientific terms about the physical and chemical changes that take place when food is cooked, e.g. heated and cooled	Select the appropriate methods and equipment for measuring, e.g. time, dry goods, liquids etc. Compare commercial and domestic processes for producing food, e.g. bread.	Understand and apply the principles of nutrition and health including the implications of excess and deficiency. Become competent in a range of cooking techniques, e.g. selecting and preparing ingredients, application of heat, seasoning dishes, combining ingredients
Mechanisms	Explore and talk about books containing flaps and moving pictures. Construct a simple slider	Deconstruct a simple slider and describe how it works. Construct a simple slider independently.	Deconstruct a range of sliders and describe how they work. Construct increasing complex sliders.	Deconstruct and reconstruct a range of sliders and levers.	Create a range of sliders and levers to produce horizontal and vertical movement.	Use a range of technical vocabulary to describe the properties and functions of mechanisms.	Make adjustments to the settings of equipment and machinery such as sewing machines and drilling machines.
	with support. Construct a simple lever with support.	Make a lever by joining card strips with paper fasteners.	Join levers to make linkages to create moving parts.	Vary the position of the pivot point to lift a load using a lever. Construct a pneumatic	Combine sliders and levers to produce a range of movements.	Choose and use a range of sliders and levers accurately to create a range of effects.	Construct and use compound gear trains to drive mechanical systems from a high revving motor.
			Construct a simple pneumatic system with one moving part.	with two moving parts.	Generate questions to investigate and compare the efficiency of pneumatic systems.	Analyse and evaluate the efficiency of pneumatic systems.	
				Identify the cam within a simple mechanism and explain how movement is changed.	Describe the way in which a cam changes rotary motion into linear motion.	Discuss the relationship between a cam and follower, an off-centre cam, a peg cam, a pear- shaped cam and a snail cam.	
Structures	Explore and investigate a range of simple, large scale construction materials, e.g.	Construct a range of simple structures using simple construction kits. Make a structure	Deconstruct and assemble the net of basic 3D shapes. Strengthen 2D	Deconstruct and assemble the net of a range of basic 3D shapes.	Create nets of increasingly complex 3D shapes which include the addition of gluing tabs.	Create nets and templates accurately in a range of sizes.	Make use of specialist equipment to mark out materials.
	cardboard boxes. Explore building, bridges and towers using large and	more stable by widening the base. Make a square frame	frames by adding diagonal bracing struts.	Join 2D frames to create 3D structures.	Reinforce and strengthen 3D framework using the concept of 'triangulation'.	Use a range of increasing methods to strengthen 3D structures and frames.	Select the most appropriate method to strength 3D structures and frames.
	small-scale construction materials, e.g. Duplo, cardboard boxes.	from strip wood using triangular card joints. Make a simple card hinge.	Make a rectangular frame from strip wood. Use materials to make	Make rectangular frames of different sizes using strip wood, reinforcing with cross braces.	Explain in detail why some structures fail.	Investigate measure and	Apply a range of finishing
	Make simple 2D structures using straws.	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	simple joints, glue, tape and paper clips.	Use a range of materials to	Use a range of materials to	record the load tolerance of different structures and	techniques, including those from art and design,

				make joints.	make joints e.g., card strips, elastic bands, thread and ties, and plastic tubing.	find ways of improving a structures load- bearing capacity. Build a range of structures using a wide range of effective materials.	to a broad range of materials including textiles, metals, polymers and woods. Use a wider more complex range of materials, components and ingredients, taking into account their properties.
Textiles	Explore, sort and group textiles by texture and colour etc.	Talk about and begin to select textiles based on characteristics of an increasing range of materials.	Talk about the similarities and differences between textiles based on the characteristics of an increasing range of	Give reasons for the selection of fabrics and techniques based on knowledge of characteristics.	Support reasons for selections with justifiable evidence and facts.	Select appropriate materials to create a product.	Use a broad range of material joining techniques including stitching, mechanical fastenings, heat
		Use a simple template.	materials. Use a simple pattern with increasing	Make and use a simple paper pattern.	Make and use a paper pattern that includes a seam allowance.	Create increasingly complex patterns and templates with more than one part that are	Investigate and develop skills in modifying the
	Cut and stick fabrics together.	Join fabrics using glue,	accuracy.	Join fabrics in a range of	Sew using a range of stitches	9	appearance of materials including textiles and other manufactured
	Apply simple finishing	staples and thread.	Cut and join fabrics using running stitch, buttons and bond web.	different ways using zips, tie clasp, toggles, press- studs and buttons.	including, backward running stitch and over sewing.	to join and decorate fabric.	materials e.g. dying and applique
	techniques, e.g. fabric crayons, gluing on feathers etc.	Apply an increasing range of finishing techniques, e.g. painting and printing.	Decorate fabric by applying beads and sequins.	Use a wide range of simple finishing techniques.	Use a wide range of techniques to add colour, texture and pattern to fabric.	Identify the most effective finishing technique in order to maximise the aesthetic value of the product.	Use CAD/CAM to produce and apply surface finishing techniques, e.g. using dye sublimation