



Design Technology - Progression Map

Area of Learning (EYFS) & National Curriculum Strand (NC)

Design Technology at Foundation stage is covered mainly in 'Personal, Social and Emotional Development', 'Physical Development', 'Understanding the World', and 'Expressive Arts and Design'. It is taught through focus tasks and continuous provision, both inside and outside. Activities encourage exploration, material manipulation, tool use, and creative expression.

At a Glance

Nursery Exploring materials, using simple tools, making imaginative constructions, and developing ideas about how to use materials.	Reception Developing motor skills, using tools competently and safely, refining artistic effects, and creating collaboratively.
Year 1 Using own ideas, describing how things work, cutting food safely, making products that move, strengthening models, planning, and choosing appropriate tools.	Year 2 Planning ideas, choosing and explaining tool/material choices, joining materials in different ways, explaining textile choices, and measuring materials.

STRAND - Developing, Planning and Communicating Ideas

Key Knowledge

Nursery I can make a model from an idea.	Reception I can represent my own ideas, thoughts and feelings through design and technology.	Year 1 I can design purposeful, functional, appealing products for themselves and other users based on design criteria.	Year 2 I can generate, develop, model and communicate ideas through talking, drawing, templates, mock-ups and, where appropriate, ICT.
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Key Skills

Nursery I can manipulate materials in my work.	Reception I can make something with a purpose in mind. I can adapt my work when needed. I can talk about my ideas.	Year 1 I can think of some of my own ideas. I can explain what I want to do. I can use pictures and words to plan.	Year 2 I can think of ideas and plan what to do next. I can choose the best tools and materials and give reasons why. I can describe my design using pictures, diagrams, models and words.
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Key Vocabulary

Nursery Make, cut, stick, join, build	Reception In addition to nursery - Improve, materials, connect	Year 1 Product, evaluate, problem-solving, label, user, purpose	Year 2 Brief, technology, form, function, assembling
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STRAND - Make

Key Knowledge

Nursery Realises objects can be stuck together using glue or tape. Realises tools can be used for a purpose. Knows different construction toys can be connected in different ways.	Reception Recognises that tools need to be used safely. Chooses between different tools, resources and techniques to connect and join materials.	Year 1 I can select from and use a wide range of materials and components, including construction materials, textiles and ingredients, according to their characteristics. I can select from and use a range of tools and equipment to perform practical tasks (cutting, shaping, joining, finishing).	Year 2 I can select from and use a wide range of materials and components, including construction materials, textiles and ingredients, according to their characteristics. I can select from and use a range of tools and equipment to perform practical tasks with increasing accuracy (cutting, shaping, joining, finishing).
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Key Skills

Nursery I can use simple tools such as scissors to snip paper. I can use different construction toys to join, build and balance. I can use blocks and construction toys to make enclosures and create spaces.	Reception I can use simple tools to effect changes to materials. I can use tools and construction materials safely and with increasing control. I can manipulate materials to achieve a planned effect. I use various resources to make things. I can handle equipment and tools effectively.	Year 1 I can select appropriate materials and tools for my project. I can use cutting, shaping, and joining techniques safely. I can explain what I am making and which tools I am using.	Year 2 I can select and use tools with increasing precision. I can join materials/components together in different ways. I can finish my product to a good standard.
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Key Vocabulary

Nursery cut, stick, glue, paper, build, join	Reception tool, material, make, cut, build, construct	Year 1 planning, investigating design, evaluate, make, user, purpose, ideas, product, investigating, function	Year 2 In addition to Year 1 - precision, finish, assemble, component, technique
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STRAND - Evaluate

Key Knowledge

Nursery I can explain why I have made something and what it is for.	Reception I can explain why I have made something and what it is for. I can talk about what I like about my work.	Year 1 I can explore and evaluate a range of existing products. I can evaluate their ideas and products against design criteria.	Year 2 I can explore and evaluate a range of existing products. I can evaluate their ideas and products against design criteria. I can suggest improvements to my work.
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Key Skills

Nursery I can talk about what I have made and how I have made it.	Reception I can describe how something works. I can talk about my own work and things that other people have done.	Year 1 I can describe how something works. I can talk about my own work and things that other people have done.	Year 2 If I did it again, I can explain what I would improve. I can explain what went well with my work.
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Key Vocabulary

Nursery cut, stick, glue, paper, build, join	Reception tool, material, make, cut, build, construct	Year 1 planning, investigating design, evaluate, make, user, purpose, ideas, product, investigating, function	Year 2 In addition to Year 1 - precision, finish, assemble, component, technique
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STRAND - Cooking and Nutrition

(Note: Year 1 and Year 2 only)

Key Knowledge

Year 1 I can use the basic principles of a healthy and varied diet to prepare dishes. I understand where food comes from.	Year 2 I can use the basic principles of a healthy and varied diet to prepare dishes. I understand where food comes from and can name food groups.
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Key Skills

Year 1 I can cut food safely. I can describe the texture of foods. I can wash my hands and make sure surfaces are clean. I can think of interesting ways of decorating food I have made, e.g., cakes.	Year 2 I can describe the properties of the ingredients I am using. I can explain what it means to be hygienic. I am hygienic in the kitchen.
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Key Vocabulary

Year 1 Ingredients, healthy, cook, taste, utensil, wooden spoon, pan, bowl, spatula, rolling pin, scale, measure, weigh, baking tin, hygiene, chef	Year 2 In addition to previous year - Squeezing, folding, slice, dice, combining
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STRAND - Textiles

(Note: Year 1 and Year 2 only)

Key Knowledge

Year 1 I can use a variety of stitching techniques to create a product. I can use different ways to join textiles e.g. glue, stitching, stapling.	Year 2 I can use a variety of stitching techniques to create a product. I can use different ways to join textiles e.g. glue, stitching, stapling. I can measure and cut textiles accurately.
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Key Skills

Year 1 I can use and explore a variety of materials, tools and techniques experimenting with design, form and function. I can measure, cut and join textiles. I can choose suitable textiles. I can describe how different textiles feel. I can make a product from textiles by gluing.	Year 2 I can join textiles together to make something. I can cut textiles. I can measure textiles and cut accurately.
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Key Vocabulary

Year 1 Stitch, fabric	Year 2 Textile, pattern, piece, join, sew
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STRAND - Technical Knowledge - Mechanisms and Structures

(Note: Year 1 and Year 2 only)

Key Knowledge

Year 1 I can explore and make mechanisms with wheels, axles, levers or sliders. I can create structures that are strong and stable with a purpose.	Year 2 I can explore and make mechanisms with wheels, axles, levers or sliders. I can create structures that are strong and stable with a purpose. I can test and improve my structures.
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Key Skills

Year 1 I can create a mechanism for a purpose. I can create a structure that is strong. I can create a slider or lever that works.	Year 2 I can create a mechanism for a purpose. I can create a structure that is strong and stable and test it. I can create something that moves. I can create an axle with wheels that move.
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Key Vocabulary

Year 1 Strong, lever, slider, purpose, structure, balance, mechanism	Year 2 Purpose, strong, stable, axle, wheels
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