

DESIGN TECHNOLOGY

LEARNING LADDER



DT Learning Ladder

Explore

Discover

Create

	Key Stage 1	Lower Key Stage 2	Upper Key Stage 2
Design	Understanding contexts, users and purposes	Understanding contexts, users and purposes	Understanding contexts, users and purposes
	Work confidently within a range of contexts, such as imaginary, story-based. Home, school, gardens, playgrounds, local community, industry and the wider environment	Work confidently within a range of contexts, such as the home, school, leisure, culture, enterprise, industry and the wider environment	Work confidently within a range of contexts, such as the home, school, leisure, culture, enterprise, industry and the wider environment
	State what products they are designing and	Describe the purpose of their products	Describe the purpose of their products
	making	Indicate the design features of their products that will appeal to intended users	Indicate the design features of their products that will appeal to intended users
	Say whether their products are for themselves or other users Describe what their products are for	Explain how particular parts of their products work	Explain how particular parts of their products work
	Say how their products will work	Gather information about the needs and wants of particular individuals and groups	Carry out research, using surveys, interviews, questionnaires and web-based resources
	Say how they will make their products suitable for intended users	Develop their own design criteria and use these to inform their ideas	Identify the needs, wants, preferences and values of particular individuals and groups
	Use simple design criteria to help develop their ideas		Develop a simple design specification to guide their thinking
	Generating, developing, modelling and communicating ideas	Generating, developing, modelling and communicating ideas	Generating, developing, modelling and communicating ideas
	Generate ideas by drawing on their experience	Share and clarify ideas through discussion	Share and clarify ideas through discussion
	Use knowledge of existing products to help come up with ideas	Model their ideas using prototypes and pattern pieces	Model their ideas using prototypes and pattern pieces
	Develop and communicate ideas by talking and drawing	Use annotated sketches, cross-sectional drawings and exploded diagrams to develop and communicate their ideas	Use annotated sketches, cross-sectional drawings and exploded diagrams to develop and communicate their ideas
	Model ideas by exploring materials components and construction kits and by making templates and mockups	Use computer-aided design to develop and communicate their ideas	Use computer-aided design to develop and communicate their ideas
	Use information and communication technology, where appropriate, to develop and communicate their ideas	Generate realistic ideas, focusing on the needs of the user	Generate innovative ideas, drawing on research Make design decisions, taking account of
		Make design decisions that take account of the availability of resources	constraints such as time, resources and cost

Make	Planning	Planning	Planning
	Plan by suggesting what to do next Select from a range of tools and equipment,	Select tools and equipment suitable for the task	Select tools and equipment suitable for the task
	explaining their choices Select from a range of materials and components according to their characteristics	Explain their choice of tools and equipment in relation to the skills and techniques they will be using	Explain their choice of tools and equipment in relation to the skills and techniques they will be using
		Select materials and components suitable for the task Explain their choice of materials and	Select materials and components suitable for the task Explain their choice of materials and
		components according to functional properties and aesthetic qualities	components according to functional properties and aesthetic qualities
		Order the main stages of making	Produce appropriate lists of tools, equipment and materials that they need
		Refer to their design criteria as they design and make	Formulate step-by-step plans as a guide to making
			Refer to their design criteria as they design and make
	Practical skills and techniques	Practical skills and techniques	Practical skills and techniques
	Practical skills and techniques Follow procedures for safety and hygiene	Practical skills and techniques Follow procedures for safety and hygiene	Practical skills and techniques Follow procedures for safety and hygiene
	· ·	Follow procedures for safety and hygiene Use a wider range of materials and components than KS1, including construction materials and kits, textiles, food ingredients, mechanical components and electrical	Follow procedures for safety and hygiene Use a wider range of materials and components than KS1, including construction materials and kits, textiles, food ingredients, mechanical components and electrical
	Follow procedures for safety and hygiene Use a range of materials and components, including construction materials and kits, textiles, food ingredients and mechanical components Measure, mark out, cut and shape materials and components	Follow procedures for safety and hygiene Use a wider range of materials and components than KSI, including construction materials and kits, textiles, food ingredients,	Follow procedures for safety and hygiene Use a wider range of materials and components than KS1, including construction materials and kits, textiles, food ingredients.
	Follow procedures for safety and hygiene Use a range of materials and components, including construction materials and kits, textiles, food ingredients and mechanical components Measure, mark out, cut and shape materials and components Assemble, join and combine materials and components	Follow procedures for safety and hygiene Use a wider range of materials and components than KS1, including construction materials and kits, textiles, food ingredients, mechanical components and electrical components Measure, mark out, cut and shape materials	Follow procedures for safety and hygiene Use a wider range of materials and components than KS1, including construction materials and kits, textiles, food ingredients, mechanical components and electrical components Accurately measure, mark out, cut and shape
	Follow procedures for safety and hygiene Use a range of materials and components, including construction materials and kits, textiles, food ingredients and mechanical components Measure, mark out, cut and shape materials and components Assemble, join and combine materials and	Follow procedures for safety and hygiene Use a wider range of materials and components than KSI, including construction materials and kits, textiles, food ingredients, mechanical components and electrical components Measure, mark out, cut and shape materials and components with some accuracy Assemble, join and combine materials and	Follow procedures for safety and hygiene Use a wider range of materials and components than KSI, including construction materials and kits, textiles, food ingredients, mechanical components and electrical components Accurately measure, mark out, cut and shape materials and components Accurately assemble, join and combine
	Use a range of materials and components, including construction materials and kits, textiles, food ingredients and mechanical components Measure, mark out, cut and shape materials and components Assemble, join and combine materials and components Use finishing techniques, including those from	Follow procedures for safety and hygiene Use a wider range of materials and components than KSI, including construction materials and kits, textiles, food ingredients, mechanical components and electrical components Measure, mark out, cut and shape materials and components with some accuracy Assemble, join and combine materials and components with some accuracy Apply a range of finishing techniques, including those from art and design, with some	Follow procedures for safety and hygiene Use a wider range of materials and components than KSI, including construction materials and kits, textiles, food ingredients, mechanical components and electrical components Accurately measure, mark out, cut and shape materials and components Accurately assemble, join and combine materials and components Accurately apply a range of finishing techniques, including those from art and

Evaluate	Own ideas and products	Own ideas and products	Own ideas and products
	Talk about their design ideas and what they are making	Identify the strengths and areas for development in their ideas and products	Identify the strengths and areas for development in their ideas and products
	Make simple judgements about their products and ideas against design criteria	Consider the views of others, including intended users, to improve their work	Consider the views of others, including intended users, to improve their work
	Suggest how their products could be improved	Use their design criteria to evaluate their completed products	Critically evaluate the quality of the design, manufacture and fitness for purpose of their products as they design and make
			Evaluate their ideas and products against their original design specification
	Existing products	Existing products	Existing products
	What products are	How well products have been designed	How well products have been designed
	Who products are for	How well products have been made	How well products have been made
	What products are for	Why materials have been chosen	Why materials have been chosen
	How products work	What methods of construction have been used	What methods of construction have been used
	How products are used	How well products work	How well products work
	Where products might be used	How well products achieve their purposes	How well products achieve their purposes
	What materials products are made from	How well products meet user needs and wants	How well products meet user needs and wants
	What they like and dislike about products	Who designed and made the products	How much products cost to make
		Where products were designed and made	How innovative products are
		When products were designed and made	How sustainable the materials in products are
		Whether products can be recycled or reused	What impact products have beyond their intended purpose
	Key events and individuals	Key events and individuals	Key events and individuals
	Not a requirement in KS1	About inventors, designers, engineers, chefs and manufacturers who have developed ground-breaking products	About inventors, designers, engineers, chefs and manufacturers who have developed ground-breaking products

Technical	Making products work	Making products work	Making products work
Know- ledge	About the simple working characteristics of materials and components	How to use learning from science and mathematics to help design and make products that work	How to use learning from science and mathematics to help design and make products that work
	About the movement of simple mechanisms such as levers, sliders, wheels and axles	That materials have both functional properties and aesthetic qualities	That materials have both functional properties and aesthetic qualities
	How freestanding structures can be made stronger, stiffer and more stable	That materials can be combined and mixed to create more useful characteristics	That materials can be combined and mixed to create more useful characteristics
	That a 3-D textiles product can be assembled from two identical fabric shapes That food ingredients should be combined according to their sensory characteristics The correct technical vocabulary for the	That mechanical and electrical systems have an input, process and output	That mechanical and electrical systems have are input, process and output
		The correct technical vocabulary for the projects they are undertaking	The correct technical vocabulary for the projects they are undertaking
	projects they are undertaking	How mechanical systems such as levers and linkages or pneumatic systems create movement	How mechanical systems such as cams or pulleys or gears create movement
		How simple electrical circuits and components can be used to create functional products	How more complex electrical circuits and components can be used to create functional products
		How to program a computer to control their products	How to program a computer to monitor changes in the environment and control their products
		How to make strong, stiff shell structures That a single fabric shape can be used to make a 3D textiles product	How to reinforce and strengthen a 3D framework
		That food ingredients can be fresh, pre-cooked and processed	That a 3D textiles product can be made from a combination of fabric shapes
			That a recipe can be adapted by adding or substituting one or more ingredients

Cooking & Nutrition	Where food comes from	Where food comes from	Where food comes from
	That all food comes from plants or animals	That food is grown (such as tomatoes, wheat and potatoes), reared (such as pigs, chickens	That food is grown (such as tomatoes, wheat and potatoes), reared (such as pigs, chickens
	That food has to be farmed, grown elsewhere (e.g. home) or caught	and cattle) and caught (such as fish) in the UK, Europe and the wider world	and cattle) and caught (such as fish) in the UK, Europe and the wider world
			That seasons may affect the food available
			How food is processed into ingredients that can be eaten or used in cooking
	Food preparation, cooking and nutrition	Food preparation, cooking and nutrition	Food preparation, cooking and nutrition
	How to name and sort foods into the five groups in The Eatwell Plate That everyone should eat at least five portions	How to prepare and cook a variety of predominantly savoury dishes safely and hygienically including, where appropriate, the use of a heat source	How to prepare and cook a variety of predominantly savoury dishes safely and hygienically including, where appropriate, the use of a heat source
	of fruit and vegetables every day	How to use a range of techniques such as	How to use a range of techniques such as
	How to prepare simple dishes safely and hygienically, without using a heat source	peeling, chopping, slicing, grating, mixing, spreading, kneading and baking	peeling, chopping, slicing, grating, mixing, spreading, kneading and baking
	How to use techniques such as cutting, peeling and grating	That a healthy diet is made up from a variety and balance of different food and drink, as depicted in The Eatwell Plate	That recipes can be adapted to change the appearance, taste, texture and aroma
		That to be active and healthy, food and drink are needed to provide energy for the body	That different food and drink contain different substances – nutrients, water and fibre – that are needed for health