What is Design Technology (DT)?

DT gives children the opportunity to generate ideas and plan what to make based on their experience of different materials and objects from everyday life. They use pictures and words to describe what they are going to make. Children have the opportunity to use a variety of tools to join materials. They are encouraged to talk about and evaluate their own work. DT includes work on textiles and food.

Foundation Stage:

Design Technology fits into the 'Expressive Arts and Design' area of the Foundation Stage Curriculum.



Key Stage 1:

Design Technology is taught during three terms a year . There are many opportunities for cross curricular and planning activities.

The Aims of DT

There are four main aims outlined in the new curriculum:

- 1 To develop the creative, technical and practical expertise needed to perform everyday tasks confidently and to participate successfully in an increasingly technological world.
- 2 To build and apply a repertoire of knowledge, understanding and skills in order to design and make high quality prototypes and products.
- 3 To critique, evaluate and test their ideas, products and the work of others.
- 4 To understand and apply the principles of nutrition and learn how to cook.



The DT Curriculum

This is a very brief overview of some of the main themes covered in each year:

Reception

DT goes on regularly in Reception. Children get regular opportunities to use reclaimed materials to make models and puppets, for example making emergency vehicles during the topic of 'Our community'. Children also get a chance to cook and prepare food regularly.

Year 1 will:

Design and make a fruit salad. Design and make toys to contribute to a toy museum. Design and make a house.

Year 2 will:

Design and make endangered animal habitats. Making healthy food. Design and make bridges, testing to see how strong they are. Make models of biplanes.

How can you help?

Here are some ways in which you can support your child when learning about DT at home.

- Get cooking with your child; let them help prepare meals.
- Talk about different packets and products when in the supermarket.
- Get into the habit of collecting interesting wrappers and scraps for junk modelling.
- Get out the Lego or other construction kits and see what you can make together!
- And most importantly, have lots of fun!



Working together to make a puppet out of a bag during a DT Book Week.



For more information please contact the following:

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Summerhill Infant School

Design Technology



This leaflet aims to give you a brief overview of DT at Summerhill Infant School.