

Year Groups

Year 2

Mechanisms

Wheels and axles

Health and safety

Pupils should be taught to work safely, using tools, equipment, materials, components and techniques appropriate to the task.

Key learning in design and technology

Prior learning

- Assembled vehicles with moving wheels using construction kits.
- Explored moving vehicles through play.
- Gained some experience of designing, making and evaluating products for a specified user and purpose.
- Developed some cutting, joining and finishing skills with card.

Designing

- Generate initial ideas and simple design criteria through talking and using own experiences.
- Develop and communicate ideas through drawings and mock-ups.

Making

- Select from and use a range of tools and equipment to perform practical tasks such as cutting and joining to allow movement and finishing.
- Select from and use a range of materials and components such as paper, card, plastic and wood according to their characteristics.

Evaluating

- Explore and evaluate a range of products with wheels and axles.
- Evaluate their ideas throughout and their products against original criteria.

Technical knowledge and understanding

- Explore and use wheels, axles and axle holders.
- Distinguish between fixed and freely moving axles.
- Know and use technical vocabulary relevant to the project.

Project title

Design, make and evaluate a _____ (product) for _____ (user) for _____ (purpose)

To be completed by the teacher if using a different context than pre planned

What could children design, make and evaluate?

push/pull toys e.g. emergency service vehicle carnival float farm vehicle
clown's car vehicle for imaginary/story character shopping trolley other – specify

Provided resources

selection of toy vehicles with differently fixed axles, card drill, cutting mat, junior hacksaw, vice,

Other resources

Example cars .card boxes, card, cotton reels, PVA glue, paint, thin/thick paint brushes, felt tip pens, left/right handed scissors, single hole punch, masking tape, dowel, paper/plastic straws, card discs, MDF wheels, wooden wheels

Learning Progression

Investigative and Evaluative Activities (IEAs)

- Explore and evaluate a range of wheeled products such as toys and everyday objects. Through questioning, direct children's observations e.g. the number, size, position and methods of fixing wheels and axles. *How do you think the wheels move? How do you think the wheels are fixed on? Why do you think the product has this number of wheels? Why do you think the wheels are round?*
- Draw an example of a wheeled product, stating the user and purpose, and labelling the main parts e.g. body, chassis, wheels, axles and axle holders.
- Walk around the school building and grounds, recording how wheels and axles are used in daily life.

Focused Tasks (FTs)

- Using construction kits with wheels and axles, ask children to make a product that moves.
- Demonstrate to children how wheels and axles may be assembled as either fixed axles or free axles.
- Show different ways of making axle holders and stress the importance of making sure the axles run freely within the holders.
- Ensure that children are taught how to mark out, hold, cut and join materials and components correctly.

Design, Make and Evaluate Assignment (DMEA)

- Discuss with the children what they will be designing, making and evaluating within an authentic context.
- With the children identify a user and purpose for the product and generate simple criteria.
- Ask children to generate, develop and communicate their ideas as appropriate e.g. through talk and drawing. Talk about, evaluate and share ideas with other children/adults.
- Make their wheel and axle product using their design ideas and criteria as an ongoing guide.
- Discuss how the children might add finishing techniques to their product with reference to their design ideas and criteria. Direct the children to information and communication technology opportunities such as clip art, word processing, paint or simple drawing programs.
- Ask children to evaluate their finished product, communicating how it works and how it matches their design criteria, including any changes they made.

