

Brilliant Bridges

As Designers we will explore different types of bridges. We will look at their invention, how they have changed and the impact this has had upon the world. We will look at the designers of these bridges and how they are significant, and we will draw upon the research of existing bridges to create our own. We will design 3 different types of bridges and create step-by-step plans to create these. We will generate and communicate ideas using sketches and computer-aided design. When making our bridges, we will select the appropriate materials and tools and we will measure, cut, shape, join and finish with accuracy and precision. We will then evaluate our products against existing designs and the design criteria to determine whether they are fit for purpose.

NC Content

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

| Materials required for this unit: | Tools and equipment required for this unit: | Vocabulary |
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| Wooden dowels (differing thicknesses) Square section wood (squared dowel) Card triangles (for joining) Assorted Balsa wood/standard wood packs Board bases Wire/string Sugar cubes (arch prototype) Card/cardboard for prototypes Lollipop sticks for prototypes/design ideas | Sandpaper Markers and rulers for measuring Wood glue Clamps Screws Screwdrivers Hand drill Hack saws | Adjustments Finishing computer-aided design prototype compression suspension refine tension |



- How an arch bridge can support a weight and the impact of compression and tension. (Using scientific knowledge to make products that work)
- How to generate ideas for design through annotated sketches and computer-aided design.
- How to formulate a step-by-step plan including a list of tools, equipment and materials that they need.
- Which materials are the most effective for creating an arch bridge, and children will know how to measure, cut, shape, join and finish these using appropriate tools with accuracy.
- How to evaluate a product against its design criteria, and suggest improvements drawing upon an understanding of how to strengthen, stiffen and reinforce structures.

| Research | Design | Make | Evaluate |
|-------------------------------------|--|--|---------------------------------------|
| Procedural skill: | Procedural skill: | Procedural skill: | Procedural skill: |
| Combine elements of design from | Design with the user in mind, motivated by the | Materials | Evaluate the design of products so as |
| a range of inspirational designers | service a product will offer (rather than simply | Cut materials with precision and | to suggest improvements to the user |
| throughout history, giving reason | for profit). | refine the finish with appropriate | experience. |
| | Make products through stages of prototypes, | tools (such as sanding wood or | |
| for choices. | making continual refinements. | making a more precise scissor cut | NC Links: |
| | Combine elements of design from a range of | after roughly cutting out a shape). | Pupils should be taught to: |
| NC links: | inspirational designers throughout history, giving | Show an understanding of the | Evaluate |
| Pupils should be taught to: | reason for choices. | qualities of materials to choose | Investigate and analyse a range |
| use research and develop design | Create innovative designs that improve upon | appropriate tools to cut and shape | of existing products. |
| criteria to inform the design of | existing products. | (such as the nature of fabric may | 01 |
| innovative, functional, | Use prototypes, cross-sectional diagrams and | require sharper scissors than those | Evaluate their ideas and products |
| appealing products that are fit for | computer aided designs to represent designs. | used to cut paper). | against their own design criteria |
| | | | and consider the views of others |
| purpose, aimed at particular | NC Links: | Construction | to improve their work. |
| individuals or groups. | Pupils should be taught to: | Develop a range of practical skills to | Understand how key events and |
| | | create products (such as cutting, | individuals in design and |

| Understand how key events and individuals in design and technology have helped shape the world. • Research into different buildings that have arches. Identify famous buildings and structures through time that use arches (link to Roman aqueducts) Compare these structures and the materials used to create them. • Research into why the arch creates a strong and stable structure in comparison to just a flat bridge. Use real life structures to do this and identify the differences in strength. • When was the first arch bridge invented? Who by? How did the invention of this bridge type change the world? • How has the design of an arch bridge change? Consider changes in materials and why these changes have occurred. • Explore how the compression and tension forces work together to create a stable structure. • Describe how an arch is made in order to support weight. | Design use research and develop design criteria to inform the design of innovative, functional, appealing products that are fit for purpose, aimed at particular individuals or groups. Generate, develop, model and communicate their ideas through discussion, annotated sketches, cross-sectional and exploded diagrams, prototypes, pattern pieces and computer-aided design Design Criteria: Create an arch bridge that can support the weight of 3 toy cars and can withstand a weather simulation. Your bridge must span a distance of at least 20cm and be able to allow the toy cars to pass over it. Design and label a plan to create an arch prototype out of sugar cubes. Children need to carefully consider how the design needs to be made up to ensure the correct amount of compression and tension. Create an arch structure using sugar cubes. Test the structure by balancing a weight on top – this could be progressive. Compare whose structures are the strongest and begin to give reasons for why. Use understanding from creating a prototype to create a design for an arch bridge and label this with the key features. | drilling and screwing, nailing, gluing, filing and sanding). NC Links: Pupils should be taught to: Make select from and use a wider range of tools and equipment to perform practical tasks [for example, cutting, shaping, joining and finishing], accurately. Select from and use a wider range of materials and components, including construction materials, textiles and ingredients, according to their functional properties and aesthetic qualities apply their understanding of how to strengthen, stiffen and reinforce more complex structures Make the arch bridge following the designs. This bridge must be fit for purpose (see design criteria) and must use typical arch bridge methods. | <pre>technology have helped shape the world. apply their understanding of how to strengthen, stiffen and reinforce more complex structures Test the bridge by moving various objects across it to test if it can withstand the weight. If the bridge fails the test, what needs to be adjusted to improve effectiveness? Children to evaluate the effectiveness of the bridge and make adjustments where necessary, giving reasons for their changes.</pre> |
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| Label the different parts | Consider materials used and joining | | |
| of an arch. | methods. (Wood, wood glue, saws, cutting) | | |
| • Possible visit to an arch bridge. | Test a range of materials (wire, | | |
| | wood, dowelling, card) that could be used to | | |
| | create an arch bridge. Compare and contrast | | |
| | in terms of effectiveness. How can these be | | |
| | strengthened? Explore methods of marking, | | |
| | cutting, joining and finishing these materials. | | |
| | Which tools are the most suitable for this? | | |
| | Generate ideas for design using | | |
| | annotated sketches and computer-aided | | |
| | design. (<u>https://www.tinkercad.com</u>) (This | | |
| | unit on TC might help with subject | | |
| | knowledge: | | |
| | https://teachcomputing.org/curriculum/key- | | |
| | stage-2/creating-media-3d-modelling) | | |
| | Design and label a step-by-step plan | | |
| | to create an arch bridge. The plan should | | |
| | include exact measurements to the nearest | | |
| | | | |
| | 1mm, tools required, joining and | | |
| | strengthening methods, and materials that | | |
| | will be used. | | |
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| Episode 2 – Suspension Bridge | |
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https://www.bigrentz.com/blog/types-of-bridges#suspension-bridge

By the end of this learning sequence, children will know:

- How a suspension bridge can support a weight and what can happen during high winds. (Using scientific knowledge to make products that work)
- How to generate ideas for design through annotated sketches and computer-aided design.
- How to formulate a step-by-step plan including a list of tools, equipment and materials that they need.
- Which materials are the most effective for creating a suspension bridge, and children will know how to measure, cut, shape, join and finish these using appropriate tools with accuracy.
- How to evaluate a product against its design criteria and suggest improvements drawing upon an understanding of how to strengthen, stiffen and reinforce structures.

| Research | Design | Make | Evaluate |
|-------------------------------------|---|--|--|
| Procedural skill: | Procedural skill: | Procedural skill: | Procedural skill: |
| Combine elements of design from a | Design with the user in mind, motivated | Materials | Evaluate the design of products so as to |
| range of inspirational designers | by the service a product will offer | Cut materials with precision and refine | suggest improvements to the user |
| throughout history, giving reason | (rather than simply for profit). | the finish with appropriate tools (such | experience. |
| | Make products through stages of | as sanding wood or making a more | |
| for choices. | prototypes, making continual | precise scissor cut after roughly cutting | NC Links: |
| | refinements. | out a shape). | Pupils should be taught to: |
| NC links: | Combine elements of design from a | Show an understanding of the qualities | Evaluate |
| Pupils should be taught to: | range of inspirational designers | of materials to choose appropriate tools | Investigate and analyse a range of |
| use research and develop design | throughout history, giving reason for | to cut and shape (such as the nature of | existing products. |
| criteria to inform the design of | choices. | fabric may require sharper scissors than | Evaluate their ideas and products |
| innovative, functional, | Create innovative designs that improve | those used to cut paper). | |
| appealing products that are fit for | upon existing products. | | against their own design criteria and |
| purpose, aimed at particular | Use prototypes, cross-sectional | Construction | consider the views of others to |
| individuals or groups. | diagrams and computer aided designs | Develop a range of practical skills to | improve their work. |
| individuals of groups. | to represent designs. | create products (such as cutting, drilling | |

| were made of simple rope to support wooden planks. How haspattern pieces and computer-aided designaccording to their functional properties and aestheticeffectiv make a | objects across it to test if it can withstand the weight. If the bridge fails the test, what needs to be adjusted to improve effectiveness? Children to evaluate the effectiveness of the bridge and make adjustments where necessary, giving reasons for their changes. |
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| • Visit to the Humber Bridge. A trip | Explore methods of marking, | |
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| on the minibus across the bridge | cutting, joining and finishing these | |
| and stop at Hessle Foreshore to | materials. Which tools are the most | |
| spot the different features etc. Can | suitable for this? | |
| we organise a talk with someone | Research methods of | |
| who works for the council?? | creating suspension bridges and | |
| | investigate with how to join and | |
| | strengthen these. (i.e. gluing sheets | |
| | of card together to make them | |
| | more sturdy, twisting the wire etc.) | |
| | Generate ideas for design | |
| | using annotated sketches and | |
| | computer-aided design. | |
| | (https://www.tinkercad.com) | |
| | Design and label a step-by- | |
| | step plan to create a suspension | |
| | bridge. The plan should include | |
| | exact measurements to the nearest | |
| | 1mm, tools required, joining and | |
| | strengthening methods, and | |
| | materials that will be used. | |

| Episode 3 – Tied Arch bridge |
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| Episode 5 – Tied Arch bridge |
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https://www.bigrentz.com/blog/types-of-bridges#tied-arch-bridge

By the end of this learning sequence, children will know:

- How a tied arch bridge can support a weight. (Using scientific knowledge to make products that work)
- How to generate ideas for design through annotated sketches and computer-aided design.
- How to formulate a step-by-step plan including a list of tools, equipment and materials that they need.
- Which materials are the most effective for creating a tied arch bridge, and children will know how to measure, cut, shape, join and finish these using appropriate tools with accuracy.
- How to evaluate a product against its design criteria, and suggest improvements drawing upon an understanding of how to strengthen, stiffen and reinforce structures.

| Research | Design | Make | Evaluate |
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| for choices. | Make products through stages of | as sanding wood or making a more | |
| tor choices. | prototypes, making continual | precise scissor cut after roughly cutting | NC Links: |
| | refinements. | out a shape). | Pupils should be taught to: |
| NC links: | Combine elements of design from a | Show an understanding of the qualities | Evaluate |
| Pupils should be taught to: | range of inspirational designers | of materials to choose appropriate tools | Investigate and analyse a range of |
| use research and develop design | throughout history, giving reason for | to cut and shape (such as the nature of | existing products. |
| criteria to inform the design of | choices. | fabric may require sharper scissors than | Evaluate their ideas and products |
| innovative, functional, | Create innovative designs that improve | those used to cut paper). | against their own design criteria and |
| appealing products that are fit for | upon existing products. | | consider the views of others to |
| purpose, aimed at particular | Use prototypes, cross-sectional | Construction | |
| individuals or groups. | diagrams and computer aided designs | Develop a range of practical skills to | improve their work. |
| | to represent designs. | create products (such as cutting, drilling | |

| Understand how key events and individuals in design and technology have helped shape the world. Research into different tied arch bridges around the world. What are they suitable for? How do these compare to an arch/suspension bridge? (i.e. is one more suitable to heavier loads/longer distances?) How does the tied arch bridge draw upon features from both the arch and suspension bridges? When was the first tied arch bridge invented? Who by? How did the invention of this bridge type change the world? Consider the impact of weather on a tied arch bridge compared to the impact of a suspension bridge. Is one more resistant than the other? Describe how a tied arch bridge is made in order to support weight. How are they stabilised? Label the different parts of a tied arch bridge. Visit to the Murdoch's Connection Bridge (over the A63 in the city centre). Can we organise a talk with someone who works for the council?? | NC Links: Pupils should be taught to: Design use research and develop design criteria to inform the design of innovative, functional, appealing products that are fit for purpose, aimed at particular individuals or groups. Generate, develop, model and communicate their ideas through discussion, annotated sketches, cross-sectional and exploded diagrams, prototypes, pattern pieces and computer-aided design apply their understanding of how to strengthen, stiffen and reinforce more complex structures Design Criteria: Create a tied arch bridge that can support the weight of 3 toy cars and can withstand a weather simulation. Your bridge must span a distance of at least 50cm and be able to allow the toy cars to pass over it. • Test a range of materials (wire, wood, dowelling, card) that could be used to create a tied arch bridge. Compare and contrast in terms of effectiveness against the | and screwing, nailing, gluing, filing and sanding). NC Links: Pupils should be taught to: Make select from and use a wider range of tools and equipment to perform practical tasks [for example, cutting, shaping, joining and finishing], accurately. Select from and use a wider range of materials and components, including construction materials, textiles and ingredients, according to their functional properties and aesthetic qualities apply their understanding of how to strengthen, stiffen and reinforce more complex structures Create a tied arch bridge according to the plan. This bridge must be fit for purpose (see design criteria) and must use typical tied arch bridge methods. | Understand how key events and individuals in design and technology have helped shape the world. apply their understanding of how to strengthen, stiffen and reinforce more complex structures Test the bridge by moving various objects across it to test if it can withstand the weight. If the bridge fails the test, what needs to be adjusted to improve effectiveness? Children to evaluate the effectiveness of the bridge and make adjustments where necessary, giving reasons for their changes. |
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