

Design and Technology – Vocabulary Ladder

Nursery				
Structures - hibernation boxes	Mechanisms - Santa sliding chimney	Textiles - Easter egg decoration	Textiles - flower threading	Food - Rainbow salad
• Autumn • Boxes • structure • season • weather • leaves • frost • cold • brown • crunchy • wet • hibernate • hibernation	• sliding mechanism • sliding picture • chimney • collage • wide • long • width • length • permanent join • temporary join	• design • plan • create • Easter • egg • pattern • colour • shape	• thread • punch • pinch • push • pull • through • under • over • up • down • pattern	• healthy • balanced diet • healthy eating • healthy lifestyle • mind • body • brain • chopping board • knife • fruit and vegetable names
Reception				
Structures - junk modelling	Food - soup			
• Join • Stick • Cut • Bend • Slot • Scissors • Measure • Materials • Fix	• Fruit • Vegetables • Safety • Knife • Blade • Tool • Edge • Handle • Chop • Slice			

	• Cut • Saucepan • Blender • Chopping board • Hob • Boil • Blend • Mix • Packaging • Recyclable • Metal • Plastic • Reusable	
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Year 1		
Structures - Goldilocks' chair	Mechanisms - moving story book	Food - smoothies
• design criteria • man-made • natural • properties • structure • stable • shape • model • test	• adapt • assemble • design • design criteria • input • mechanism • model • sliders • test	• blend • blender • chopping board • compare • cut • design • evaluate • flavour • fork • fruit • healthy • ingredients • juice • juicer

		• leaf • plant • recipe • root • seed • select • smoothie • stem • table knife • taste • tree • vegetable • vine
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Year 2		
Textiles - Christmas decoration	Structures - castles	Food - wraps
• decorate • fabric • fabric glue • knot • needle • needle threader • running stitch • sew • template • thread	• 2D • 3D • castle • design • key features • net • scoring • shape • stable • stiff • strong • structure • tab	• appearance • balanced • carbohydrates • chopping board • combination • cut • dairy • design • design brief • diet • evaluate • feel • fruit • grate • grater

		• ingredients • menu • oils • proteins • review • scissors • smell • snip • spread • spreads • table knife • taste • vegetables
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Year 3		
Textiles - cushion	Electrical systems - electric poster	Mechanisms - pneumatic systems
• asymmetrical • appliqué • cotton • cross-stitch • embellish • fabric • patch • pinking • polyester • running stitch • silk • symmetrical • template • thread • unique	• battery • bulb • circuit • circuit component • crocodile wire • design • design criteria • develop • electric product • electrical system • feedback • final design • information design • initial ideas • peer-assessment	• mechanism • lever • pivot • linkage system • pneumatic system • input • output • component • thumbnail sketch • research • adapt • properties • reinforce • motion

	• public • research • self-assessment • sketch	
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Year 4		
Structures - pavilions	Electrical systems - torches	Food - eating seasonally
• 3D shapes • cladding • design criteria • innovative • natural • reinforce • structure	• battery • bulb • buzzer • circuit diagram • component • conductor • electrical item • electricity • electronic item • insulator • series circuit • switch • target audience • test • torch • wire	• appearance • arid • climate • complementary • country • cut • design • evaluate • export • fruit • grate • import • ingredients • Mediterranean • mock-up • mountain • peel • polar • seasonal • seasons • snip • taste • temperate • texture • tropical • vegetable • weather

Year 5		
Textiles - stuffed toys	Structures - bridges	Mechanisms - pop-up book
• accurate • annotate • appendage • blanket-stitch • design criteria • detail • evaluation • fabric • sew • shape • stuffed toy • stuffing • template	• accuracy • aesthetics • arch bridge • assemble • beam bridge • bench hook/vice • corrugation • evaluate • factors • hardwood • joints • lamination • mark out • material properties • quality of finish • reinforce • rigid • sandpaper/glasspaper • softwood • stability • stiffness • strength • technique • tenon saw/coping saw • truss bridge • visual appeal • wood file/rasp • wood sourcing	• criteria • design • input • mechanism • model • motion • reinforce • research

Year 6

Food - bread

- yeast
- gluten
- knead
- prove / proof
- fermentation
- dough
- mixture
- ingredients
- texture
- aroma
- flavour
- hygiene
- evaluate
- design
- method
- equipment
- measuring
- weighing
- mixing
- shaping
- baking
- oven
- timer
- recipe
- consistency
- rise
- elasticity
- temperature

Electrical systems - steady hand game

- assemble
- battery
- battery pack
- benefit
- bulb
- bulb holder
- buzzer
- circuit
- circuit symbol
- component
- conductor
- copper
- design
- design criteria
- evaluation
- fine motor skills
- fit for purpose
- form
- function
- gross motor skills
- insulator
- LED
- user