



Knowledge and Skills Progression – Investigation



	Nursery	Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Investigation	Tools have different purposes. For example, scissors are used for cutting and glue is used for sticking. Explore simple tools within practical tasks and experiment with joining materials.	Different tools are needed for different tasks. For example, pencils and paper are needed for drawing pictures. Choose and explore appropriate tools for simple practical tasks.	Specific tools are used for particular purposes. For example, scissors are used for cutting and glue is used for sticking. Select the appropriate tool for a simple practical task.	Different tools have characteristics that make them suitable for specific purposes. For example, scissors are used for cutting paper because they have sharp, metal blades that can cut through thin materials. Select the appropriate tool for a task and explain their choice.	Specific tools can be used for cutting, such as saws. Wood can be joined using glue, nails, staples, or a combination of these. Safety rules must be followed to prevent injury from sharp blades. These rules include using a bench hook to keep the wood still, using a junior hacksaw with a pistol grip and working under adult supervision. Use tools safely for cutting and joining materials and components.	Useful tools for cutting include scissors, craft knives, junior hacksaws with pistol grip and bench hooks. Useful tools for joining include glue guns. Tools should only be used with adult supervision and safety rules must be followed. Select, name and use tools with adult supervision.	There are many rules for using tools safely and these may vary depending on the tools being used. For example, someone using a chisel should chip or cut with the cutting edge pointing away from their body. All tools should be cleaned and put away after use, and should not be used if they are loose or cracked. Name and select increasingly appropriate tools for a task and use them safely.	Precision is important in producing a polished, finished product. Correct selection of tools and careful measurement can ensure the parts fit together correctly. Select appropriate tools for a task and use them safely and precisely.
Investigation Evaluation	Different aspects of designing and making can be discussed with others. Share their creations with others and respond to questions and suggestions	Recognise that it is possible to change and alter their designs and ideas as they are making them. Adapt and refine their work as they are constructing and making.	A strength is a good quality of a piece of work. A weakness is an area that could be improved. Talk about their own and each other's work, identifying strengths or	Finished products can be compared with design criteria to see how closely they match. Improvements can then be planned. Explain how closely their finished products meet their design criteria and say what they could	Asking questions can help others to evaluate their products, such as asking them whether the selected materials achieved the purpose of the model. Suggest improvements to their products and describe how to implement	Evaluation can be done by considering whether the product does what it was designed to do, whether it has an attractive appearance, what changes were made during the making process and why the changes were	Testing a product against the design criteria will highlight anything that needs improvement or redesign. Changes are often made to a design during manufacture. Test and	Design is an iterative process, meaning alterations and improvements are made continually throughout the manufacturing process. Evaluating a product while it's being manufactured, and explaining

	about how it was made.		weaknesses and offering support.	do better in the future.	them, beginning to take the views of others into account.	made. Evaluation also includes suggesting improvements and explaining why they should be made. Identify what has worked well and what aspects of their products could be improved, acting on their own suggestions and those of others when making improvements.	evaluate products against a detailed design specification and make adaptations as they develop the product.	these evaluations to others, can help to refine it. Demonstrate modifications made to a product as a result of ongoing evaluation by themselves and to others.
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