

PHOTOGRAPH FRAMES

Content and skills

This chapter links to Unit 3D 'Photograph frames' of the QCA Scheme of Work for design and technology at Key Stage 2. The main focus of this chapter is materials and their properties, although children will also learn that materials can be manipulated and combined to make them stronger. They will be introduced to techniques to create strong frame structures and learn that wide bases can give structures their stability. Children will have opportunities to create decorative features for a frame by combining materials which are then used to enhance a picture being displayed. They will also learn that the choice of materials or techniques will depend on the user or purpose of the product.

There will be opportunities for children to generate their own ideas for designing a frame by investigating commercial products; they will look at the use of displays in the wider environment and test out ideas of their own through sketching and modelling. Children are encouraged to demonstrate a sustainable attitude by using materials responsibly. To avoid creating too much waste, reused card and paper is suggested.

The chapter is structured as follows:

- ▶ Investigating stability.
- ▶ Investigating photograph frames.
- ▶ Investigating the need for frames.
- ▶ Cutting and manipulating paper and card.
- ▶ Combining materials.
- ▶ Design and make activity.
- ▶ Evaluating their photograph frames.

Outcome

The main outcome for this unit will be to design and make a picture frame for a specific user and purpose. In doing this, the children will:

- ▶ gain an understanding of the ways in which structures can be made stable
- ▶ research materials that could be used to construct photograph frames
- ▶ identify who the user might be and what the user needs and wants in the frame
- ▶ generate some possible solutions to the user's needs/ wants
- ▶ design and make a complete personalised photograph frame, appropriate for a particular person.

Health and safety

In this chapter, the children learn skills in cutting and scoring accurately with appropriate tools. Ensure that the children carry scissors closed with blades in their palms and that they score away from their bodies. Refer to your school and local authority health and safety policies and guidance for the safe use of sharp equipment. When investigating frames, ensure that they are in good repair and have no sharp edges. Children must take care with any frames that have glass in them.

Links to other subjects

English: discussion about the user and purpose of products, writing and sequencing instructions when planning how to make a frame and asking questions when evaluating others' work.

Maths: measuring accurately and ensuring rectangular frames are made with right-angle corners.

Art and design: decorative techniques including collage and mosaic.



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