1st Level



LEGO

Materials

- 16 envelopes with LEGO
- LEGO challenge cards

Challenge

- Pupils to work together to complete the challenge card in the individual pack.
- Pupils can present to the class what they build, how and why.
- Extra cards included if needed.

Benchmarks

TCH 1-09a

Creates and justifies a solution to a given design challenge considering who is it for, where and how it will be used.
Uses appropriate tools and joining methods to construct a model.

LIT 1-02a

1st Level



Paper Chain

Materials

- Paper
- Sticky Tape
- Scissors

Challenge

• Pupils to **work individually** to create the longest chain that they can using only one piece of paper.

Benchmarks

TCH 1-09a

Creates and justifies a solution to a given design challenge considering who it is for, where and how it will be used.

Uses appropriate tools and joining methods to construct a model.





Paper Aeroplanes

Materials

- Paper
- Help cards
- Coloured pens/pencils

Challenge

- Pupils to work individually to build and decorate a paper aeroplane.
- Pupils then test their aeroplanes to see which travels the furthest.

Benchmarks

TCH 1-12a

Recognises and identify different engineering disciplines.

Builds a solution to a specific task, which has moving parts.

1st Level



Tangrams

Materials

- Tangram sets
- Help cards

Challenge

- Pupils to **work individually** to complete challenges using the help card.
- Extra challenge can be offered by asking pupils to use all of the shapes to make a square.

Benchmarks

TCH 1-11a

Recognises 2D and 3D shapes and how they can be used to visually represent ideas/concepts.





Straw Towers

Materials

- 10 art straws (per group)
- Sticky tape
- Whiteboards

Challenge

- Pupils to work in groups to discuss and plan on whiteboards.
- Pupils work together to build the tallest tower that they can.

Benchmarks

TCH 1-04d

Investigates a simple problem/challenge which includes given criteria.

Explores and identifies a range of ideas to solve challenge/problem.

Selects and uses resources to make the solution/solve the problem.

Assesses the solution against the original criteria.

LIT 1-10a

Communicates clearly and audibly.

Contributes to group/class discussions, engaging with others for a range of purposes.

Takes turns and contributes at the appropriate time when engaging with others in a variety of contexts.

Listens and responds appropriately to others in a respectful way.



Penny Surface Tension

Materials

- Plastic coins
- Droppers
- Cups
- Food colouring

Challenge

- Pupils working in groups to predict the number of drops each coin will hold.
- Pupils take turns using the dropper to count the number of drops on the coin.
- Pupils observe the drop that breaks the surface tension and causes the water to leak from the top of the coin.

Benchmarks

SCN

Inquiry and investigative skills

Collaborates to undertake investigations.

LIT 1-10a

Communicates clearly and audibly.
Contributes to group/class discussions, engaging with others for a range of purposes.

Takes turns and contributes at the appropriate time when engaging with others in a variety of contexts.

Listens and responds appropriately to others in a respectful way.



Newspaper Hats

Materials

- Newspaper
- Sticky tape
- Coloured pens/pencils

Challenge

- Pupils work individually to create a hat.
- Pupils use only one piece of newspaper.
- The hats can be decorated using materials provided.
- The hats can be showcased in a newspaper hat catwalk.

Benchmarks

TCH 1-04d

Investigates a simple problem/challenge which includes given criteria.

Explores and identifies a range of ideas to solve challenge/problem.

Selects and uses resources to make the solution/solve the problem.

Assesses the solution against the original criteria.

LIT 1-10a

Communicates clearly and audibly.

Contributes to group/class discussions, engaging with others for a range of purposes.

Takes turns and contributes at the appropriate time when engaging with others in a variety of contexts.

Listens and responds appropriately to others in a respectful way.

1st Level



4 in a Row

Materials

- 16 double sided board games
- Whiteboard pens

Challenge

- Pupils work in pairs and take turns to answer the calculations in the box.
- When they get it correct, pupils should use a symbol and mark the box with their whiteboard pen.
- The first to connect 4 in a row is the winner.
- Boards can be wiped and then played again.

Benchmarks

NUM 1-02a

Recognises, explains and uses the connections between addition and subtraction and multiplication and division to complete mental and written calculations.

LIT 1-10a

Communicates clearly and audibly.

Contributes to group/class discussions, engaging with others for a range of purposes.

Takes turns and contributes at the appropriate time when engaging with others in a variety of contexts.

1st Level



Paper Ball

Materials

- Paper
- Sticky tape
- Scissors

Challenge

- Pupils work individually to make the most exact sphere that they can.
- Pupils to present their solution to the class at the end of the session.

Benchmarks

TCH 1-04d

Investigates a simple problem/challenge which includes given criteria.

Explores and identifies a range of ideas to solve challenge/problem.

Selects and uses resources to make the solution/solve the problem.

Assesses the solution against the original criteria.

1st Level



Ted Needs a Seat

Materials

- Newspaper
- Sticky tape
- Teddy bear

Challenge

- Pupils work in pairs to design and build a chair that Ted can sit on.
- The chair needs to be the right size and strong enough to support him.

Benchmarks

TCH 1-04d

Investigates a simple problem/challenge which includes given criteria.

Explores and identifies a range of ideas to solve challenge/problem.

Selects and uses resources to make the solution/solve the problem.

Assesses the solution against the original criteria.

1st Level



How Many Triangles?

Materials

Class set of challenge cards

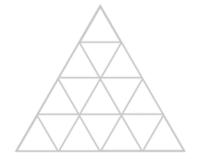
Challenge

- Pupils work individually work out how many triangles there in the picture, exploring all the different options.
- Pupils to share with their shoulder partner how they got on.

Benchmarks

TCH 1-11a

Shares ideas with others. Recognises 2D shapes and how they can be used to visually represent ideas/ concepts?



1st Level



Find the Missing Number

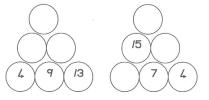
Materials

Class set of task cards with varying challenge

Challenge

- Pupils work in pairs or individually to solve the puzzle.
- Class teacher to demonstrate using a simple example.
- Pupils should be able to explain to their peers how they solve the puzzle and which strategy they used.
- Class teacher to decide who works individually or in a pair.

Benchmarks



NUM 1-02a

Recognises, explains and uses the connections between addition and subtraction and multiplication and division to complete mental and written calculations.

LIT 1-10a

Communicates clearly and audibly.

Contributes to group/class discussions, engaging with others for a range of purposes.

Takes turns and contributes at the appropriate time when engaging with others in a variety of contexts.

1st Level



Design a Planet

Materials

- Paper
- Whiteboards and pens

Challenge

- Pupils work in groups to design a planet.
- Pupils should consider the landscape, living things, money, travel and housing.
- Pupils to present their ideas to the rest of the class.

Benchmarks

TCH 1-04d

Investigates a simple problem/challenge which includes given criteria.

Explores and identifies a range of ideas to solve challenge/problem.

Selects and uses resources to make the solution/ solve the problem.

Assesses the solution against the original criteria.

LIT 1-10a

Communicates clearly and audibly.

Contributes to group/class discussions, engaging with others for a range of purposes.

Takes turns and contributes at the appropriate time when engaging with others in a variety of contexts.

1st Level



Build a Wall

Materials

Polystyrene chips

Challenge

- Pupils work individually to build the longest and tallest wall using only polystyrene chips.
- Discuss as a class what was tricky and what worked and what did not.

Benchmarks

TCH 1-04d

Investigates a simple problem/challenge which includes given criteria.

Explores and identifies a range of ideas to solve challenge/problem.

Selects and uses resources to make the solution/solve the problem.

Assesses the solution against the original criteria.

LIT 1-10a

Communicates clearly and audibly.

Contributes to group/class discussions, engaging with others for a range of purposes.

Takes turns and contributes at the appropriate time when engaging with others in a variety of contexts.



Build a Bridge

Materials

- Wooden stirrers
- Pegs
- Blue paper for river
- Elastic bands

Challenge

- Pupils work in pairs or groups to design ad build a bridge to cross the river.
- Pupils then explain their design to teacher or peers and share what they have learned and what they would do differently.

Benchmarks

TCH 1-04d

Investigates a simple problem/challenge which includes given criteria.

Explores and identifies a range of ideas to solve challenge/problem.

Plans and makes the solution.

Assesses the solution against the original criteria. Identifies at least one possible improvement.

LIT 1-10a

Communicates clearly and audibly.

Contributes to group/class discussions, engaging with others for a range of purposes.

Takes turns and contributes at the appropriate time when engaging with others in a variety of contexts.

1st Level



Little Owl's Egg

Materials

- Book—Little Owl's Egg
- Paper
- Pencils

Challenge

- Teacher reads the story to the class.
- Pupils work individually or in pairs to design a pram to keep the egg safe.
- Pupils then explain their design

Benchmarks

TCH 1-04d

Investigates a simple problem/challenge which includes given criteria.

Explores and identifies a range of ideas to solve challenge/problem.

Plans and makes the solution.

Assesses the solution against the original criteria. Identifies at least one possible improvement.

LIT 1-10a

Communicates clearly and audibly.

Contributes to group/class discussions, engaging with others for a range of purposes.

Takes turns and contributes at the appropriate time when engaging with others in a variety of contexts.

1st Level



Pattern Block Pictures

Materials

- Pattern blocks
- Activity cards

Challenge

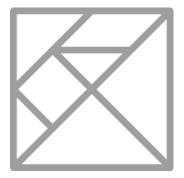
- Pupils work individually or in pairs to complete the activity cards with the pattern blocks
- Extension—create their own design for their partner to complete

Benchmarks

MNU 1-16a

Identifies examples of tiling in the environment and applies knowledge of the features of 2D shapes to create tiling patterns incorporating two different shapes.

Names, identifies and classifies a range of simple 2D shapes ad 3D objects and recognises these shapes in different.



1st Level



Tin Foil Boats

Materials

- Tin foil
- Marbles

Challenge

- Pupils work individually or in pairs and are given one square of tinfoil.
- They ten build a boat.
- The boats are then tested in the sink to see which holds the most marbles.

Benchmarks

TCH 1-04d

Investigates a simple problem/challenge which includes given criteria.

Explores and identifies a range of ideas to solve challenge/problem.

Plans and makes the solution.

Assesses the solution against the original criteria. Identifies at least one possible improvement.





Magnetic Maze

Materials

- Mazes
- Pipe cleaners
- Magnets

Challenge

- Pupils work individually or in pairs to create a character from pipe cleaners.
- The pupils then must guide their character through the maze using the magnet on the other side of the paper.
- Extension—Pupils can design and build their own mazes

Benchmarks

TCH 1-04d

Investigates a simple problem/challenge which includes given criteria.

Explores and identifies a range of ideas to solve challenge/problem.

Plans and makes the solution.

Assesses the solution against the original criteria. Identifies at least one possible improvement.

SCN 1-08a

Reports in writing, visually, orally how magnets exert a non-contact force on each other and attract certain materials.



Gorilla Loves Vanilla

Materials

- Gorilla Loves Vanilla (book)
- Paper
- Coloured pens/pencils

Challenge

- Pupils work individually to design and label their ideal ice cream sundae with details of flavours and toppings.
- Pupils then present their ideas to the class.
- Pupils then consider what they would change about their design once they have heard each other

Benchmarks

TCH 1-04d

Investigates a simple problem/challenge which includes given criteria.

Explores and identifies a range of ideas to solve challenge/problem.

Plans and makes the solution.

Assesses the solution against the original criteria. Identifies at least one possible improvement.

LIT 1-10a

Communicates clearly and audibly. Contributes to group/class discussions, engaging with others for a range of purposes.

Takes turns and contributes at the appropriate time when engaging with others in a variety of contexts. Listens and responds appropriately to others in a respectful way, for example, by nodding or agreeing, asking and answering questions.

1st Level



Playing Card Tower

Materials

Playing cards

Challenge

• Pupils work individually or in pairs to build the tallest free standing tower using only playing cards.

Benchmarks

TCH 1-04d

Investigates a simple problem/challenge which includes given criteria.

Explores and identifies a range of ideas to solve challenge/problem.

Plans and makes the solution.

Assesses the solution against the original criteria. Identifies at least one possible improvement.



1st Level



Ted Needs a Bed

Materials

- Teddy bear
- Newspaper
- Sticky tape

Challenge

• Pupils work in pairs to design and build a bed that Ted can sleep in. The bed needs to be the right size and strong enough to support Ted.

Benchmarks

TCH 1-04d

Investigates a challenge / problem

- •Identifies and demonstrates ways to solve the challenge / problem
- •Identifies and selects appropriate resources to solve the challenge/problem
- •Plans and makes the solution
- ·Assesses solution against own criteria
- •Identifies at least one possible improvement

