

National Curriculum Links:

Select from and use a wider range of tools and equipment to perform practical tasks (for example, cutting, shaping, joining and finishing) accurately. Investigate and analyse a range of existing products. Evaluate their ideas and products against their own design criteria and consider the views of others to improve their work.

Understand and use mechanical systems in their products [for example, gears, pulleys, cams, levers and linkages].

Essential Prior Learning:

Children should have had the opportunity to explore and use mechanisms such as flaps, sliders and levers in familiar contexts, such as books and cards with moving parts.

They should have had experience of basic cutting, joining and finishing techniques with paper and card.

Progression in Skill:

Explain how particular parts of their products work. Measure, mark out and shape material and components with increasing accuracy.

Assemble, join and combine materials and components with increasing accuracy.

Investigate and analyse how well products work, achieve their purpose and meet user needs and wants.

Consider the views of others, including intended users, to improve their work. Mechanical systems have input, process and output.

Use learning from Science and Mathematics to help design and make products that work.

Learn how mechanical systems such as levers and linkages or pneumatic systems create movement.

Long-term Memory Knowledge:

Children will be able to:

Improve the accuracy of cutting, joining and finishing. Know that levers work by a push and a pull. Know how to strengthen a structure by using stronger materials and/or folding, using triangular structures, etc.

Know that split pins are a way of joining materials allowing movement.

Make suggestions on how to improve a design.

Key Vocabulary	
mechanism	a device used to create
	movement in a product
system	systems have an input, process
	and an output; in a lever and
	linkage mechanism, the 'input
	movement' is where the user
	pushes or pulls a card strip; the
	'output movement' is where
	one or more parts of the picture
	move.
lever	a rigid bar which moves around
	a pivot; levers are used in many
	everyday products

linkage	the card strips joining one or more levers to produce the type of movement required; 'linkage' is also used to describe the lever and linkage mechanism as a whole
slot	the hole through which a lever is placed so that part of a picture moves
guide or bridge	a short card strip used to keep lever and linkage mechanisms in place and control movement
loose pivot	a paper fastener that joins card strips together
fixed pivot	a paper fastener that joins card strips to the backing card

Progression in Resources:

Play sets with gears and cogs Building KNEX models using pulleys, gears and cogs Creating own products using mechanical systems

Relevance	
Now	Develop a way to make products with moving parts,
	applying this to their own creations.
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Future	Have a greater understanding of mechanisms and are more able
	to fix things when broken rather
	than needing to replace.
Aspiration	Children may be inspired to
	pursue a career in Design
	Technology or Science; they
	enjoy model making and
	building as a hobby.