

**1. Year Groups**  
**Year 2**

**2. Aspect of D&T**  
**Mechanisms**  
  
**Focus**  
**Wheels and axles**

**4. What could children design, make and evaluate?**  
**A pull along vehicle**

**5. Intended users**  
**A toddler**

**6. Purpose of products**  
**To carry things in.**

**7. Links to topics/themes**  
**DT Week**

**8. Possible contexts**  
**home**

**9. Project title**  
**To design, make and evaluate a pull along vehicle (Product) for a toddler (User) to carry things in (Purpose) To be completed by the teacher. Use the project title to set the scene**

**16. Possible resources**  
selection of toy vehicles with differently fixed axles  
  
card boxes, card, cotton reels, plastic tubing, dowel, clothes pegs, paper sticks/dowel, paper/plastic straws, card discs, MDF wheels, wooden wheels  
  
single hole punch, card drill, cutting mat, masking tape, PVA glue, paint, thin/thick paint brushes, felt tip pens, decorative paper, double sided sticky fixers, junior hacksaw, vice, left/right handed

**17. Key vocabulary**  
vehicle, wheel, axle, axle holder, chassis, body, cab  
  
assembling, cutting, joining, shaping, finishing, fixed, free, moving, mechanism  
  
names of tools, equipment and materials used  
  
design, make, evaluate, purpose, user, criteria, functional

**3. Key learning in design and technology**

**Prior learning**

- Assembled vehicles with moving wheels using construction kits.
- Explored moving vehicles through play.
- Gained some experience of designing, making and evaluating products for a specified user and purpose.
- Developed some cutting, joining and finishing skills with card.

**Designing**

- Generate initial ideas and simple design criteria through talking and using own experiences.
- Develop and communicate ideas through drawings and mock-ups.

**Making**

- Select from and use a range of tools and equipment to perform practical tasks such as cutting and joining to allow movement and finishing.
- Select from and use a range of materials and components such as paper, card, plastic and wood according to their characteristics.

**10. Investigative and Evaluative Activities (IEAs)**

- Explore and evaluate a range of wheeled products such as toys and everyday objects. Through questioning, direct children's observations e.g. the number, size, position and methods of fixing wheels and axles. *How do you think the wheels move? How do you think the wheels are fixed on? Why do you think the product has this number of wheels? Why do you think the wheels are round?*
- Draw an example of a wheeled product, stating the user and purpose, and labelling the main parts e.g. body, chassis, wheels, axles and axle holders.
- Walk around the school building and grounds, recording how wheels and axles are used in daily life.
- Read a story or non-fiction book that includes a wheeled product. Use this to introduce relevant vocabulary and to emphasise user and purpose.

**11. Related learning in other subjects**

- Science** – working scientifically: ask simple questions and observe closely. Explore use of everyday materials.
- Mathematics** – number of wheels, more than, less than, equal.
- Spoken Language** – use of technical vocabulary. Ask relevant questions to extend understanding and build vocabulary and knowledge.

**12. Focused Tasks (FTs)**

- Using construction kits with wheels and axles, ask children to make a product that moves.
- Demonstrate to children how wheels and axles may be assembled as either fixed axles or free axles.
- Show different ways of making axle holders and stress the importance of making sure the axles run freely within the holders.
- Ensure that children are taught how to mark out, hold, cut and join materials and components correctly.
- Using samples of materials and components they will use when designing and making, ask the children to assemble some examples of wheel, axle, axle holder combinations. Display the work completed as a reference for their DMEA.

**13. Related learning in other subjects**

- Spoken language** – give well-structured descriptions and explanations. Develop speaking and listening skills. Learn relevant technical vocabulary.
- Mathematics** – measuring length using non-standard and standard units.

**14. Design, Make and Evaluate Assignment (DMEA)**

- Explore and evaluate a range of products with wheels and axles.
- Discuss with the children what they will be designing, making and evaluating within an authentic context.
- Evaluate their ideas throughout and their products against original criteria.
- With the children identify a user and purpose for the product and generate simple criteria.
- Ask children to generate, develop and communicate their ideas as appropriate e.g. through talk and drawing. Talk about, evaluate and share ideas with other children/adults.
- Make their wheel and axle product using their design ideas and criteria as an ongoing guide.
- Explore and use wheels, axles and axle holders.
- Discuss how the children might add finishing techniques to their product with reference to their design ideas and criteria. Direct the children to information and communication technology opportunities such as clip art, word processing, paint or simple drawing programs.
- Ask children to evaluate their finished product, communicating how it works and how it matches their design criteria, including any changes they made.

**15. Related learning in other subjects**

- Spoken language** – use spoken language to develop understanding through imagining and exploring ideas.
- Art and Design** – use a range of media and materials creatively to design and make products.
- Computing** – use technology purposefully to create and manipulate digital content.
- Mathematics** – measurement using non-standard and standard units.

**18. Key competencies**  
problem-solving teamwork negotiation  
consumer awareness organisation motivation  
persuasion leadership perseverance  
other – specify

**19. Health and safety**  
Pupils should be taught to work safely, using tools, equipment, materials, components and techniques appropriate to the task. Risk assessments should be carried out prior to undertaking this project.

