

40. PROTOTYPING

Prototyping is used to build a three-dimensional model of an idea to either develop the idea further by testing the shape, the idea, details or functionality or to show others what an idea or solution would look like and how it would work. Prototyping is crucial for idea development. You do not need to use expensive materials or a lot of time. You can use paper, cardboard, LEGO bricks or bits and pieces of waste or scrapped materials. Building, moulding and gluing also gives those pupils who are not talented in writing and abstract thinking the opportunity to shine in class.

Materials needed: Clay, cloth, paper, cardboard, milk cartons, drinking straws and all kinds of waste products and materials you can find, glue or glue guns. Go wild and use anything that can be glued together.

Time required: 45 minutes to one day.

How?

1) Collect an assortment of materials for model and prototype building. Different materials and waste products can often be used in the most surprising way.

2) Before making a more complicated prototype/model, make a scale drawing of the object.

3) Remember to do prototyping early in the project, as it can be really simple and cheap but still very useful.

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