



Textiles – Nature cushions



Year: 3
Term: Summer

Essential Prior Knowledge

Children already know:

- How to design purposeful, functional, appealing products for themselves and other users based on design criteria
- How to generate, develop, model and communicate their ideas through talking, drawing, templates, mock-ups
- How to select from and use a range of tools and equipment to perform practical tasks [for example, cutting, shaping, joining and finishing] including with textiles
- How to select from and use a wide range of materials and components including textiles
- How to explore and evaluate a range of existing products
- How to evaluate their ideas and products against design criteria

Key knowledge (facts and skills) for unit

Technical and pre-design knowledge

Textile – children to know that this is a flexible material made from natural or artificial fibres though different processes including weaving, knitting, crocheting, knotting, tatting, felting or braiding

Pattern pieces – children to know that patterns are a template used in sewing, from which the parts of a garment are traced onto fabric before being cut out and then put together; they are usually made of paper.

Sewing – children will know what different types of stitches are, including running stitch, basting stitch, backstitch, invisible stitch, slip stitch, hemming stitch, overcast stitch and catch stitch and which ones are best for different purposes.

Cross-stitch – children to know that it is two-stitch style of sewing which forms a cross pattern.

Applique – children to know that the word means ‘applied’ and it is a type of textiles work where small pieces of cloth are sewn or stuck in a pattern, a repeated decorative design, onto a larger piece.

Design

- To know who my target audience is and understand how this will influence my research and design.
- To know how to conduct research to help me design my cushion.
- To know how to use product research, including target audience surveys, to influence my decision making.
- To know how to use research of existing cushions to create different possible designs.
- To know how to use research of cushions to create multiple designs.
- To know how to decide which design I would like to make by using my survey outcomes and represent this using ICT programme (e.g. 2 paint) showing different angles and annotations including the stitch I will use
- To know how to test my design ideas through creating prototypes and change my design depending on what myself and others think from my survey.

Make

- To know how to construct a nature cushion by cutting, sewing and reinforcing textiles using a chosen stitch.
- To know how to use pattern pieces within my design and hem, finish and decorate a nature cushion.

Evaluate

- To know how to evaluate my product.
- To decide if my design is innovative, functional, appealing and suitable for its purpose, considering my target audience.
- To say what was successful about my product and what could be improved.
- To say if there is anything I could improve if I were to make it again

Key Outcomes

Can I evaluate existing hand-made cushions?

Children will consider what a cushion is used for and where they might find them. They will know that textiles need to fulfil a purpose but also be aesthetically pleasing. Children will look at existing hand-made cushions and use their findings to inform their own designs.

Who is my target audience for my nature-inspired cushion?

Children will explore a specific target audience for their cushion design through showing simple sketches of their initial designs to others and taking feedback to inform their design.

Can I practise cross-stitch and applique sewing skills?

Children will look at models of and examples of cross-stitch and appliqué and then children practise them with scraps of fabric before creating their own cushion design including these effects for decoration..

Can I design a nature-inspired cushion?

Children will use a computer programme such as 2paint to design and annotate their own 2D images of cushions inspired by nature explaining the materials and equipment that they will use to make and decorate them. They will consider where the cushion will go, as this will influence: the colours or patterns they use, the appliqué shape and where they will use cross stitch. They will use a nature theme for the appliqué shapes but keep them simple.

Can I make my nature themed cushion design?

Children will use pattern pieces as templates and cut out two identical pieces of fabric in a simple shape from their design, which will be decorated using appliqué or cross-stitch. They will leave a border or at least 1cm to allow space for the seam. Once, decorated, they will assemble the cushion including wadding.

How successful is my product?

Children will evaluate how sturdy, appealing and fit for the target audience their final product is against the original set criteria. They will identify the strengths and weaknesses, stating what they found difficult.

Assessing Pupils' Understanding and Progress

Pupils with secure understanding indicated by: Their ability to use a cross-stitch to join two pieces of fabric together. Their ability to design and cut the template for a cushion. Their ability to use cross-stitch and appliqué to decorate a cushion face.

Pupils working at greater depth indicated by: Their ability to use a neat and considered cross-stitch to join an appliqué patch to another fabric and attempt reverse appliqué. Their ability to design their cushion, considering how the different elements will work together then neatly cutting the template for a cushion in an interesting shape. Their ability to sew neatly, using cross-stitch, with consistent small, neat stitches, and appliqué to decorate a cushion face that matches their design sheet.

Key vocabulary

- Fabric
- Needle
- Thread
- Seam
- Attach
- Stitch
- Applique
- Cross-stich
- Running stitch
- Knot
- Fabric
- Decorate/decorative
- Textiles
- Template
- Wadding/stuffing

