

DT Area (National Curriculum)	Key Vocabulary	Example Use in Primary DT
Designing	design, user, purpose, product, brief, criteria, evaluate, improve, innovate, prototype	Children design a product for a specific user and purpose.
Structures	structure, frame, strengthen, reinforce, stability, shape, support, base, load, construct	Investigating how to make bridges and towers stronger.
Mechanisms	axle, wheel, pivot, lever, linkage, slider, movement, input, output, rotary, linear	Creating moving vehicles, toys and models.
Mechanical Systems	gear, pulley, pulley system, transmission, rotation, force, motion, mechanism	Exploring how movement is transferred within a system.
Electrical Systems	circuit, battery, cell, bulb, switch, buzzer, conductor, insulator, output, input, component	Designing products that use simple electrical circuits.
Computing in DT	program, control, sensor, sequence, monitor, automate, data, technology	Using programmable devices within DT projects.
Textiles	fabric, stitch, seam, template, decorate, joining, fastening, thread, needle, applique	Making puppets, bags and other fabric products.
Food and Nutrition	ingredients, nutrition, healthy, balanced diet, hygiene, peel, chop, mix, recipe, evaluate	Preparing and evaluating healthy food products.
Materials	wood, metal, plastic, paper, card, fabric, properties, durable, flexible, waterproof	Selecting suitable materials for different products.
Making	measure, mark, cut, join, assemble, shape, finish, tools, equipment, accuracy	Following a design to create a final product.
Evaluating	test, compare, strengths, weaknesses, feedback, modify, refine, effectiveness	Assessing how well a product meets its design criteria.
Technical Knowledge	function, mechanism, innovation, engineer, manufacture, process, system, components	Understanding how products work and are made.
Sustainability	recycle, reuse, environment, renewable, waste, sustainable, lifecycle, impact	Designing products with environmental considerations.
Safety	risk, hazard, safe, protective equipment, supervise, handle, store	Using tools and equipment safely during practical work

