

WHAT'S IN THE SOCK?

THINKING SKILL: information processing, reasoning

SUBJECT LINK: science

LEARNING LINK: visual

ORGANISATION: individuals

RESOURCES: one sock for each child; an object that is safe to touch inside each sock and a matching object in a different sock on another table in the classroom

WHAT TO DO

- Put your hand inside the sock. Feel the texture, shape and size of the object.
- Without removing the object, move around the classroom until you think you have found its matching partner.
- Check whether you are right.
- Put one object back inside the sock and swap socks with a classmate.

NOW TRY THIS

Find as many partner objects as you can in seven minutes.



DESIGN A BEACH TOWEL

THINKING SKILL: creative thinking, evaluation

SUBJECT LINK: design and technology

LEARNING LINK: visual

ORGANISATION: whole-class introduction, then groups

RESOURCES: large sheets of paper; felt-tipped pens; A4 sheets of paper; pencils and crayons; seaside pictures; a few novelty towels (including some beach towels)

WHAT TO DO

- Spend two minutes looking at the novelty towels. Decide which ones would be suitable for a beach towel. Do you like the way it looks? Do you like the way it feels?
- What sort of motifs would be suitable for a beach towel. Why?

NOW TRY THIS

1. As a group, share your ideas about motifs to include in your designs.
2. Take it in turns to draw them.

3. On your own, design your beach towel. Think before you start. What motifs will you use? What size and position will they have? Which one will be the main motif? Which will be less important and smaller?

4. Sketch your designs. Put them in the place you have decided. (They do not need to be perfect at this stage.)

5. Label your design with the name of the motif and the colours you intend to use.



SYMMETRY

THINKING SKILL: information processing

SUBJECT LINK: mathematics

LEARNING LINK: visual

ORGANISATION: individuals or pairs

RESOURCES: symmetrical card or plastic templates large enough for the children to feel around the edge – mathematics sorting resources are a useful source for these but also Christmas trees, stars, shapes, hearts and butterflies; A3-size sheets of paper; felt-tipped pens

WHAT TO DO

- Choose one of the symmetrical templates and place it in front of you.
- Put the forefingers of both hands at the top centre of the template. Feel around the edge with both fingers moving together in opposite directions until they meet at the bottom.
- Do this again with another template.
- Now try it with your eyes closed.
- Did your fingers still meet at the bottom?

NOW TRY THIS

1. Place a sheet of paper in front of you. Place both fingers together at the top of the paper, close your eyes and draw a triangle by moving both fingers at the same time in opposite directions until they meet at the bottom.
2. Now try it again, but this time draw a square.
3. What about a Christmas tree?
4. Pick up two felt-tipped pens and draw symmetrical pictures, shapes and patterns with both hands at the same time. Try it with your eyes closed.