



Year 8 Core DT – Natural Disasters

Learning about this topic is important because:

Learning about "Survival - Natural Disaster" in KS3 D&T, through an interdisciplinary project involving Food, Textiles, and Product Design, is crucial as it situates education within a real-world context, fostering relevance and engagement. This project develops students' problem-solving, creativity, and technical skills by having them research, design, and prototype solutions for disaster scenarios. It promotes awareness and empathy, enhances material knowledge, and integrates multiple disciplines, which encourages collaboration and effective communication. Additionally, it aligns with the National Curriculum by fostering practical skills, iterative design thinking, and inspiring future designers and engineers to tackle real human problems.

This builds on:

- Research, design and evaluative skills.
- Creative design and problem-solving skills.
- Material knowledge (properties and characteristics).
- CAD skills.

This leads to:

This project leads to significant student development by enhancing problem-solving abilities, technical proficiency, and creativity. It fosters empathy, resilience, and adaptability through real-world applications, and promotes effective collaboration and communication skills. Exposure to interdisciplinary work broadens students' educational perspectives and inspires future careers in design and technology.

We will learn:

- Problem-solving skills through real-world applications.
- Technical proficiency in design, material selection, and CAD.
- Creative and innovative thinking.
- Empathy and global awareness by understanding the impacts of natural disasters.
- Material selection and application.

We will develop/practise skills including:

- Problem-solving and critical thinking
- Technical design and prototyping
- Creative and innovative thinking
- Resilience and adaptability
- Collaboration and teamwork
- Effective communication and presentation

Some of the vocabulary that we will use includes:

- Specification
- Design Brief
- Hierarchy of needs
- Nonperishable
- Sensory evaluation
- Biomimicry
- Typography
- Kevlar
- Gore- Tex

You could learn more about this topic by:

- BBC Bitesize - Design and Technology
- National Geographic Kids - Natural Disasters
- NASA Climate Kids

Your teacher will assess your knowledge & understanding throughout the topic by looking at your work, questioning, discussion and giving you feedback in lots of diverse ways. The key pieces of work in this topic are:

Assessment based on- Research, Design and Evaluation skills. Students also sit an end of unit written exam.