

Project 2: Eco-fashion

Overview

In this project you will design and make a fashionable piece of clothing using recycled materials. At the end of the project the whole class will organise an eco-fashion show.

You will need to:

- c decide who you are designing and making the garment for (this might be yourself)
- c collect a wide range of reclaimed materials (not just textiles)
- c learn how to shape a garment so that it fits
- c find out more about the ergonomic factors (e.g. height and weight) that affect clothes
- c learn how to join and finish garments
- c make, test and evaluate your garment
- c help to design and stage an eco-fashion show, including organising choreography and lighting, recording a soundtrack, and producing a programme for visitors to the show.

Background to the project

It is becoming more and more important for people in every country, of all ages, to learn about sustainability. At the moment the way we live is often unsustainable – particularly in the rich countries of the North – and it is easy for people to feel that they can't make a difference. As consumers we are free to buy and use products that either help or damage the long-term sustainability of the planet. One area that is particularly important is sustainable textiles and eco-fashion.

Your brief

Design and make a garment using recycled materials. This might be for you to wear, or for someone else to model.

As a class, design and stage an eco-fashion show where you can model your garments. The aim of your show is to excite the audience about the possibilities of using recycled materials in clothes. This is a group project, for which you need to consider:

- c the venue (hall, runway, seating)
- c the order that clothes will be modelled
- c choreography
- c lighting
- c a soundtrack
- c a programme giving the order, names of designers, a short description of each garment and an explanation of why the show is being staged.

Possible outcomes

The type of things you could design and make include:

- c a dress, shorts, trousers or a top made from recycled materials such as plastic bottles, video-tape, bin-liners, paper, scraps of fabric, wire, card, off-cuts of plastic, wood, metal, leaves, or anything else that is usually thrown away
- c accessories made from recycled materials
- c the fashion show itself.