

Functions of Fabric : DT : Year 3/4

	Learning Objective	Overview	Assessment Questions	Resources
Lesson 1	To know about the properties and uses of a range of different fabrics	In this first lesson, children will find out exactly what a fabric is, and look at some of the common fabrics we use for clothing and soft furnishings. In their independent activities, children discuss and answer questions using Fabric Fact Cards. In the alternative activity, they practise the art of weaving.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can children define what a fabric is? • Can children name a variety of different fabrics? • Can children discuss and answer questions about fabrics in terms of their properties and uses? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Slides • Fabric samples (optional) • Fabric Fact Cards • Question Cards • Worksheet 1A/1B • Weaving Instructions Sheet (FSD? activity only) • Strong cardboard squares, approx 12 cm, large-eyed needles, scissors, selection of wool (FSD? activity only)
Lesson 2	To investigate natural and synthetic fabrics and how their uses changed fashion	In this lesson the children will investigate synthetic fabrics and how this invention changed fashion and certain world events. The children will look at the differences in natural and synthetic fabrics and either sort advantages and disadvantages of each or go on a fabric hunt to see which type is more common.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do children know the difference between natural and synthetic fabrics? • Can children name some synthetic fabrics and the advantages they have over natural fabrics? • Do children understand the impact that the invention of synthetic fabrics had on the world? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Slides • Advantages and Disadvantages Cards • Item Cards • Optional: Worksheet 2A • Natural/Synthetic Fabrics List (FSD? activity only)
Lesson 3	To understand the importance of recycling and reusing fabric	In this lesson the children explore reusing and recycling fabrics and what it means for a fabric to be sustainable. The children learn about different materials and how sustainable they are, before having a go at practising their mending skills or creating a persuasive text to encourage others to make do and mend.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do children understand why it is important to try to recycle/reuse unwanted clothing? • Can children name and discuss some sustainable fabrics? • Can children practise their skills in order to repair a piece of clothing? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Slides • Scraps of fabrics, buttons, needles, thread, scissors • How to... Cards • Sewing Stitch Instruction Sheet A/B • Reuse & Recycle Ideas Sheet (FSD? activity only) • Leaflet Template (FSD? activity only)
Lesson 4	To explore and practise different sewing stitches	Children will begin this lesson by exploring different fabric bags. They will look carefully at the type of stitch used and different types of fastenings, questioning what stitch is the most secure. Children will then be guided through how to thread a needle before practising different types of stitches.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can children identify and name some different sewing stitches? • Can children use one or more of these stitches when sewing fabric together? • Can children discuss the use/effectiveness of these different sewing stitches? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Slides • Selection of fabric bags • Selection of pieces of fabric, approx. 10cm x 10cm • Needles, thread • Sewing Stitches Help Sheets A/B/C/D
Lesson 5	To design a small fabric bag using specific criteria	Children will discuss what a design brief and design criteria are, before going on to design a small bag based on a 'client's' design brief in their independent activities. In the alternative activity, children are challenged to use CAD (computer-aided design) to make a simple sewing pattern.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do children understand what design criteria are? • Can children design a bag or pouch to meet specific design criteria? • Can children plan the making process, understanding what they will need to do and the order in which they will need to do it? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Slides • Client Design Brief Cards • Design Sheet 5A/5B • Tracing paper/thin paper • Teacher Notes 5A (FSD? activity only) • Challenge Card 5A (FSD? activity only)
Lesson 6	To make a small bag using specific criteria	Children will construct the bags they have designed. They will have the opportunity to evaluate their designs and final products through discussion, with guidance from the lesson slides.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can children follow their design (and amend where necessary) to make their finished product? • Can children choose and use an appropriate sewing stitch to join fabric together? • Can children evaluate their finished product based on the original design criteria? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Slides • Design Sheets from previous lesson • Fabric, needles, thread, scissors, fastenings • Sewing Stitches Sheets • How to... Sheets • Evaluation Interview Cards