

TERM: Autumn 2		YEAR GROUP: 3	SUBJECT: DT – Mechanical Systems	
WEEK 1	WEEK 2	WEEK 3		WEEK 4
DATE: 02.09	DATE: 09.09	DATE: 16.09		DATE:23.09
Exploring Pneumatics	Designing a pneumatic toy	Making pneumatic toys		Decorating and assembling my toy
LO: To understand how pneumatic systems work.	LO: To design a toy that uses a pneumatic system. Success Criteria: I can develop design criteria from a	LO: To create a pneumatic system. Success Criteria: I can create a pneumatic system to		LO: To test and finalise ideas against design criteria. Success Criteria: I can remember that materials are
Success Criteria: I can recall that	design brief.	create a desired motion.		selected due to their functional and aesthetic
mechanisms are a system of parts	I can generate suitable ideas using thumbnail	I can build secure housing for a pneumatic system.		characteristics.
that work together to create	sketches and exploded diagrams.	I can recall that syringes and balloons can be used to		I can recall how to manipulate materials to create
motion.	I can recall there are three different types of	create different types of pneumatic systems.		different effects by cutting, creasing, folding, weaving,
I can recall that a pneumatic	pneumatic systems that I can use to design my toy	I can recall how to use these components to make a		etc.
system can be used as part of a	and use recycled household objects to make it.	functional and appealing pneumatic toy.		Main Event: The children finish making the pneumatic
mechanism.	I can recall that different types of drawings are used	Main Event: Children to collect necessary		system and housing for their toys before assembling
I can recall that pneumatic systems	in design to explain ideas clearly.	their pneumatic system. Arrange the children on tables		and decorating them.
are used in a range of everyday	Main Event: Ask the pupils to sketch three ideas for	according to the type of pneumatic system they are using (e.g. those who are using balloons and those who		Support: Could make simple decorative features using
objects. I can recall that a pneumatic	a pneumatic toy on their design sheet. Explain that the sketch should involve either a backwards and	are using syringes) as they can share materials and		suggested materials; could use a model to help them decorate their design; could be given pre-made features
system can force air over a distance	forwards or up and down movement (e.g. a jack-in-	support each other.		(e.g. arms, eyelashes, curled pipe cleaners, etc.) to help
to create movement.	the-box, moving scenery in a puppet theatre or	Once the children have created the mechanism, they		decorate their pneumatic toys.
Main Event: In small groups, hand	Santa coming out the top of a chimney). Display slide	can find the materials for their housing: cardboard		Challenge: Should experiment with their use of
out equipment for the children to	5 and explain that an exploded diagram can illustrate	packaging or card.		materials, independently reaching their own
experiment and the Activity:	how different parts of a product fit together, giving a	The children must clearly mark where to attach the		conclusions about how to make and finish their toys.
Pneumatic systems (one each).	clear idea of exactly how to make it. They could add	different parts of their mechanism: they must fit the		
Explain that the children will record	arrows and label the parts with the materials they	balloon or syringes before they attach the moving parts		
three examples of pneumatic	will use or begin drawing a detailed version of their	of their toy.		
systems, as demonstrated by the	idea using slide 7 to support it.	Once the children have finalised how the parts attach,		
teacher, and explain how they	Support: Could use the examples on the Activity:	they can cut out the necessary pieces of card for hinges		
work.	Example sketches and diagrams; could use	or moving parts. Explain that they should hold the		
Support: Could have the	the Activity: Pneumatic toy design sheet two; should	mechanism in place to test that it still works in the		
experiments repeated or have the	be encouraged to keep their ideas simple so that	housing.		
equipment set up in front of them.	they can focus on creating a high-quality end	Support: Should keep their toy simple, e.g. use		
Challenge: Should draw, label and	product; could remove the time constraint	balloons instead of syringes for their pneumatic toys,		
explain in greater depth; should	suggestions on thumbnail sketches.	using boxes with hinged lids, and use pre-made shapes.		
provide examples of products that	Challenge: Should be challenged to draw with detail and accuracy, labelling the parts and materials in	Challenge: Should create their own nets on card for the housing.		
use pneumatic systems.	their design.			