Architecture for Change: Building Sustainably

For KS3 students - designed + delivered for the Grimshaw Foundation by Urban Learners

Programme Structure + Content:

S1: 40 mins in school

Introduction to

Coverina: What is architecture? What does climate crisis mean to you? What is sustainable architecture? Who are Grimshaw Architects? What is the Grimshaw Foundation?

Using films to introduce themes and set the scene for the workshop

S2:

2.5 hours off site

S3:

2-3 hours in school

S4:

1.5 hours in school

S5:

0.5 day

1 hour in school

S6:

2.5 hours off site

Programme:

series.

Discovering a local sustainable building:

1 day

Coverina: Tour of building with UL and architect/s. **UL** exploratory mapping, measuring and sketching

S2a: Camden/Islington students visited: The Straw Bale House by Sarah Wigglesworth Architects.

S2b: Newham students visited: Here East (UCL + Plexal).

UL modelling activity:

Related to visited building to further explore it's key sustainability theme/s.

S3a: Camden/Islington Students explored the unusual and sustainable materials observed, to create a collaborative abstract model.

S3b: Newham Students explored modular, adaptable structures, and designed creative labs through modelling.

Exploring the Eden Project:

Presentation, films, quizzes and model making activity.

Exploring Terra -The Sustainability **Pavilion:**

Presentation. films, quizzes and experimenting with light and shadow.

Visit to Grimshaw's Studio:

0.5 day

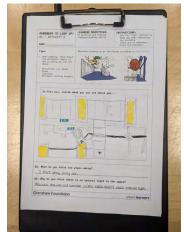
Presentation, films. discussions with model maker and architects and collaborative model making activity.

Grimshaw Foundation

S1

Introduction to the Programme

Setting the scene for the workshop series and activities, all of which were accompanied by work sheets and/or instruction sheets, e.g.



"All prepared resources were excellent." DT Teacher

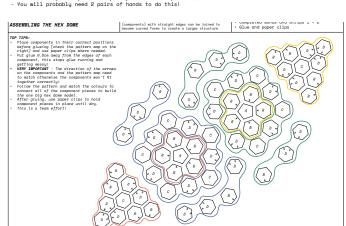




- STEP 6:

 Wrap the wall (step 4) around the base of the roof (step 5) to see how the parts connect.

 From the inside of the geodesic dome, glue the tabs together and clip together to keep them in place until they dry. Tip: place glue on the top tabs of Step 4 (wall) and then place the top (roof) on top and pinch them together from the inside. Paper clips can help keep the tabs in place too. You will probably need 2 pairs of hands to do this!



S2

Discovering a local sustainable building

S2a _ Camden/Islington schools visited The 'Straw Bale House'







S3

Modelling activity related to visited building

S3a

"The modelling in school in response to SWA exploration was really excellent, and all students worked well in teams to complete an overall outcome." DT Teacher





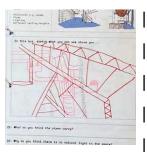
Curriculum links: Science, Art, Design Technology



S2b _ Newham schools visited Here East (UCL and Plexal)









S3b

"The students learnt how to scale down and the importance of ratio" DT Teacher







Curriculum links: Science, Geography, Design Technology

Exploring The Eden Project, Cornwall



Showcasing the innovative efficient design and engineering of both the structure and materials students learnt about the biomes through films, quizzes and team model-making.

Using 2D triangles (we call them bubble wrap sandwiches) to create their own simple 3D geodesic domes further reinforced students understanding of why efficient structures create sustainable architecture.









Curriculum links: Maths, Science, Design Technology





Exploring Terra - The Sustainability Pavilion, Dubai



Showcasing the innovative design and engineering of both the Pavilion and surrounding **Energy Trees, students** learnt how nature and environment can influence sustainable and regenerative design through films and quizzes.

Experimenting with light and shadow was one of the ways the students' explored orientation and its impact sustainable architecture. Our simple models of the Terra Energy Trees helped them realise how innovative design features can track and move with the sun to create energy.









Curriculum links: Science, Geography, Design Technology

S6

Visiting Grimshaw's Studio



Working in teams and with architects to make hex components to then build a complex dome collaboratively in a studio environment. Students were introduced to the model workshop, and were also shown a variety of models (at different scales) around the office.







Curriculum links: Maths, Science, Design Technology

urban learners

Key Learning Objectives

Through participating in the programme students should have:

- Developed their understanding and awareness of sustainable architecture and how this has a positive impact on the climate crisis.
- Developed an awareness and understanding of creative career pathways in the world of architecture, and the importance of GCSE art/ design/technology to these.
- Learnt the following through quick model-making activities:
 - Key sustainability themes, e.g. efficient and modular structures.
 - · Composition and/or design
 - How 2D shapes when connected in certain ways transform into a 3D object/structure.
 - Developed an understanding of scale and or proportion.
- Developed an understanding of how architecture has an impact on the people that use buildings.
- Developed their ability to record what they see, and to communicate ideas in 2D (quick sketching).
- Developed their ability to communicate ideas in 3D (quick model-making)
- · Developed their team working skills.
- · Developed their independent thinking.
- Developed their self confidence.

Student Feedback



"I learnt there are different jobs to do with architecture." 13 year old

"Architects focus a lot on sustainability even in small clever ways." 14 year old

> "I loved it because we got to go into the structure that we made." 13 year

"I liked how we had to organise the hexdome because it made me think." 14 year old

> "I learnt there lots of different and special tasks are needed to make an idea." 13 year old



Student Participants

| **132** KS3 students | (aged 12-14 yrs)

92% attendance (of 144 total)

6 London state schools*

85%+ of all students from non-traditional backgrounds.

*School	% Eng not 1st Lang	% Pupil premi- um
COLA: Islington	36%	60%
Parliament Hill (Camden)	37%	38%
Regent High School (Camden)	78%	67%
Bobby Moore Academy	17%	51%
Harris Academy: Chobham	61%	43%
Stratford Academy School	73%	43%