

Curriculum Area	Art & Design	Activity Type	Practical
Suitable for	KS 1 & 2	Activity Number	BB14
Activity Name	Design a Helmet		

Learning Outcome:

Understand the need to protect your brain from injury when undertaking sports, hobbies or activities in which it could be possible to injure your head. Understand the need for a design concept that is both practical (contains all relevant safety features - i.e. hard material, will not fall off etc) and will appeal to users.

(Further information specifically relating to bicycle helmets can be found at <http://www.bhit.org/>)

Materials Required:

- Paper
- Coloured pens
- Art materials - card, fabric, pictures, ribbons etc

Instructions:

Best used in conjunction with BB015 Head Protection.

Introduce the activity - Cycle helmets protect the head by reducing the rate at which the skull and brain are accelerated or decelerated by an impact. The helmet acts like a shock absorber. As it is impacted, the expanded polystyrene liner dissipates the energy over a rapidly increasing area like a cone.

Ask children to draw a design for a helmet that :

- Has a hard outer surface
- A cushioning liner
- Head straps
- Is comfortable

The sample design can be shown using any materials such as fabric, tin foil, card, coloured paper, or simply drawn

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Some examples to get the children thinking.....



Some additional questions/consideration for the class:

1. Why is the helmet important for the brain?
2. Why does the helmet need to be hard outside and soft inside?
3. Does it really need a strap?
4. Why should it be comfortable?