









Future Makers

Future Makers is an innovative partnership between Queensland Museum Network and Shell's QGC business aiming to increase awareness and understanding of the value of science, technology, engineering and maths (STEM) education and skills in Queensland.

This partnership aims to engage and inspire people with the wonder of science, and increase the participation and performance of students in STEM-related subjects and careers — creating a highly capable workforce for the future.

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EVALUATE

Inspired by Nature

Teacher Resource

Students examine developments in science and technology by selecting an innovation or object whose design has been inspired by nature. They explore why the innovation or object was developed, its design and function, then determine how the item has impacted society. The Question Answer Relationship (QAR) strategy may be used to guide this process.

Students then work to improve the selected innovation or object in some way. They identify the features that they would keep, improve or remove to enhance the item, and then begin the redesign process by identifying a new user, establishing a refined set of user needs and explaining the final design solution.

Curriculum Links

Science

YEAR 5

Science as a Human Endeavour

Scientific knowledge is used to solve problems and inform personal and community decisions (ACSHE083)

YEAR 6

Science as a Human Endeavour

Scientific knowledge is used to solve problems and inform personal and community decisions (ACSHE100)

YEAR 7

Science as a Human Endeavour

Solutions to contemporary issues that are found using science and technology, may impact on other areas of society and may involve ethical considerations (ACSHE120)

People use science understanding and skills in their occupations and these have influenced the development of practices in areas of human activity (ACSHE121)

YEAR 8

Science as a Human Endeavour

Solutions to contemporary issues that are found using science and technology, may impact on other areas of society and may involve ethical considerations (ACSHE135)

People use science understanding and skills in their occupations and these have influenced the development of practices in areas of human activity (ACSHE136)

YFAR 9

Science as a Human Endeavour

People use scientific knowledge to evaluate whether they accept claims, explanations or predictions, and advances in science can affect people's lives, including generating new career opportunities (ACSHE160)

Design and Technologies

YEAR 5 AND 6

Design and Technologies: Knowledge and Understanding

Examine how people in design and technologies occupations address competing considerations, including sustainability in the design of products, services, and environments for current and future use (ACTDEK019)

YEAR 7 AND 8

Design and Technologies: Knowledge and Understanding

Investigate the ways in which products, services and environments evolve locally, regionally and globally and how competing factors including social, ethical and sustainability considerations are prioritised in the development of technologies and designed solutions for preferred futures (ACTDEK029)

YEAR 9 AND 10

Design and Technologies: Knowledge and Understanding

Investigate and make judgments, within a range of technologies specialisations, on how technologies can be combined to create designed solutions (ACTDEK047)

Cross-Curriculum Priorities

Sustainability

Actions for a more sustainable future reflect values of care, respect and responsibility, and require us to explore and understand environments. (OI.7)

Designing action for sustainability requires an evaluation of past practices, the assessment of scientific and technological developments, and balanced judgements based on projected future economic, social and environmental impacts. (Ol.8)

Inspired by NatureStudent Activity

Sustainability

Select an innovation or object whose development has been inspired by nature, then use your selection to answer the following questions.

My Selection:	

In The Resource	In My Head
Right There	Author and You
What does the object do?	What solutions does this object offer?
Who was involved in the design and production of the object?	How did people in different occupations work together to develop this object?
Think and Search	On My Own
What has inspired the development of this object?	What sustainability issues may arise as a result of using this object? Explain your answer.
	How could these issues be resolved?

Inspired by Nature

Student Activity

Ethics

Select an innovation or object whose development has been inspired by nature, then use your selection to answer the following questions.

My Selection:	

In The Resource	In My Head
Right There	Author and You
What does the object do?	What solutions does this object offer?
Who was involved in the design and production of the object?	How did people in different occupations work together to develop this object?
Think and Search	On My Own
What has inspired the development of this object?	What ethical issues may arise as a result of using this object? Explain your answer.
	How could these issues be resolved?