



Crafts Council
44a Pentonville Road
London N1 9BY

T +44 (0)20 7806 2500
media@craftscouncil.org.uk

eden project

CRAFTS COUNCIL AND THE EDEN PROJECT ANNOUNCE A NEW LEARNING PARTNERSHIP



14 August 2023

Craft School: Material World is Crafts Council's new national craft challenge for primary and secondary learners aged 5-16.

The climate emergency is at the top of the agenda for children and young people. Crafts Council has partnered with The Eden Project to challenge learners to use craft and making to explore the impact of climate change on everyday life.

Together with The Eden Project, we've shaped a creative brief for learners focused on three themes: Renewable Materials, Creative Mending, and Reclaim and Reuse. Starting in September 2023, children and young people will work in their schools to make 3D work in response to the themes. Work will be submitted to Crafts Council in April 2024, with winners for each Key Stage selected by our independent judging panel. An online celebration for all participants will be held in June 2024, including make-along workshops, maker Q&As and prize giving.

Craft School: Material World is underpinned by 'Make First', Crafts Council's craft education pedagogy. 'Make First' puts materials into the hands of children and young people at the earliest opportunity, empowering them to decide the direction of their work and develop their voices as craftspeople. We hope the challenge will inspire a lifelong love of making and give an insight into creative progression routes and craft careers.

Support for teachers is at the heart of Craft School - the programme offers a toolkit of resources to help teachers deliver the challenge with their learners, as well as three online teacher training sessions and monthly online catch-ups with the Crafts Council's Learning team and extended

network of craft educators. Teachers will also be celebrated through a teacher award at the close of the programme.

Quotes

“With creative subjects increasingly squeezed in our schools, Craft School creates a vital opportunity for children and young people to learn through the messy, joyous process of making.

We placed anti-racist and anti-ableist approaches at the heart of Craft School, building a programme that we hope is accessible to all education settings and celebrates the progression of individual learners and the unique perspective that they bring to craft.” - **Zoe Dennington, Head of learning and participation, Crafts Council**

“The climate emergency urges all of us to look again at our demands on resources, to be more creative, careful and ingenious in finding ways to live in harmony with the natural world.

Craft School: Material World invites young people to explore the sensory, textural and visual properties of things we might throw away and natural materials in their daily lives.

We are inviting young people to create unique and beautiful objects by using everyday items and by the power of thinking sustainably, creatively and imaginatively.” - **Bran Howell, education specialist, The Eden Project**

Links

- [Craft School](#)
- [Craft School: Material World](#)
- [‘Make First’ learning pedagogy](#)
- [Craft educators Facebook Group](#)

- Ends -

Notes to editors

For press information, interviews or images, please email m_stern@craftscouncil.org.uk copying comms@craftscouncil.org.uk

About Crafts Council

[Crafts Council](#) is the national charity for craft. We believe craft skills and knowledge enrich and uplift us as individuals and can change our world for the better. Through our activities, we inspire making, empower learning and nurture craft businesses. We do this by championing craft and its positive impact on society, increasing levels of craft education and participation, growing the market for craft, and building a sustainable and inclusive craft sector.

- [Visit www.craftscouncil.org.uk](http://www.craftscouncil.org.uk)
- [Follow @craftscouncil on Instagram](#)
- [Follow @craftscounciluk on Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#)

About The Eden Project

The [Eden Project](#) connects us with each other and the living world, exploring how we can work towards a better future. They are an educational charity. Money raised supports transformational projects and learning programmes.

- [Visit www.edenproject.com](http://www.edenproject.com)
- [Follow @EdenProject on Twitter](#)
- [Follow @theedenproject on Facebook](#)