## Draw and calculate like an architect (Level 2)

| Description | Learners use body parts in scale drawing of floor plans and calculate area using <br> simple counting methods |
| :--- | :--- |
| Leading Question | How can you draw floor plan sketches and calculate areas using your body <br> parts as measuring tools? |
| Total Time <br> Required | $\sim$ b hours over 4 days |
| Subjects | Mathematics, Art and Design |
| Supplies Required | Paper and pencil, a ruler (for smaller measures), a tape measure (for larger <br> measures) |
| Supervision <br> required | Medium to high |

## Day 1

Today you will learn about creating your own house!

| Suggested <br> Duration | Activity and Description |
| :--- | :--- |
| $\mathbf{2 0}$ minutes | - In this project, you will learn how an Architect draws floor plans, and what <br> methods they use to calculate the size of rooms or houses. |
|  | - Can you explain what a measurement is? <br> - Let's start by measuring the floor dimensions of this room. |



Input: Examples of non-standard units used by ancient people to measure length included: the Foot, the Hand, the Handspan, the Cubit, the Digit, the Pace etc.

|  | - The Cubit is a measurement equal to the length from your elbow to the tip of your middle finger when your arm is extended. Egyptians mainly used their cobits to measure objects, <br> - The Foot is a measurement equal to the length of your foot from the toe to the heel. King Henry I of England standardized this measurement to measure his foot which was 12 inches long. <br> - The Handspan is a measurement equal to the length from the tip of the thumb to the tip of the last finger when your hand is stretched out. <br> - The Digit is a measurement equal to a finger's breadth. Four digits equals a Palm and five digits equals to a Hand. Greeks mainly used their fingers to measure objects. The Hand is still used to measure the height of horses. <br> - The Pace is a measurement of the distance from one step to another. The Roman Army used the Pace to judge speed. <br> The Fathom is a measurement equal to the length between both your base fingers when you outstretch both your arms. The Fathom was used to measure the depth of water |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | In this activity, learners will measure their Cubit, Foot, Handspan, Digit, Palm, Hand, Pace, Fathom and those of two of their family members/friends and enter their findings in the table below. |  |  |
|  | Person | Personal Measure | Body part length (unit) |
|  |  | Cubit |  |
|  | Learner | Foot |  |
|  |  | Handspan |  |
|  |  | Digit |  |
|  |  | Palm |  |
|  |  | Hand |  |


|  |  | Pace |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
|  | Fathom |  |  |


|  |  |  | (cm or in) | (cm or in) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Length of a pencil | Digit |  |  |
|  | Length of a foot mat | Foot |  |  |
|  | Length from table to door | Pace |  |  |
|  | Length of room | Cubits |  |  |
|  | - How close ar ruler or tape | the esti easure? | ned using P | Measure to using a |
| 15 minutes | Activity 3: Measuring the dimensions of a room <br> For this activity, learners will use mainly the Foot, and the Digit non-standard units. Of course, you know that your foot size is smaller than the actual Foot unit used on measuring tapes (as different people have different foot sizes!) <br> - Pick one of the house rooms with a rectangular floor shape, preferably the smallest room in the house. <br> - Stand on one corner of the chosen room, and walk by the wall, step by step, to reach the other corner. <br> - You must start with the back of your foot touching the wall behind, and then place the other foot right in front of and touch the other foot, and keep counting your steps until you reach the facing wall. <br> - Repeat with the 4 sides of the room, and write down the measures in a table like the one below |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |


|  | Room side 2 |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Room side 3 |  |
|  | Room side 4 |  |
|  | - Is any of the sides equal in length to another side? Does this apply to all rectangles? <br> - In a rectangle, usually the measure of the longer side is called length (L); and the measure of the shorter side is called width (W). |  |
| 15 minutes | - On a piece of paper, you will draw a sketch of the room <br> - The room is much bigger than the sheet of paper, so architects usually draw a smaller sketch that looks like the actual room but smaller (something like a photograph of you compared to the real size of you). <br> - See below how to do it: <br> - To do this, instead of using your Foot to draw the sides of the rectangle, you use your finger: Digit. <br> - In the example below, see a sketch of a room whose Length $L=8$ feet, and width $\mathrm{W}=5$ feet. The actual size of the sketch is 8 Digits by 5 Digits. |  |
|  |  |  |


|  | - As you also notice, we do not need to write the sizes of the other sides, as in a rectangle opposite sides are equal in size. <br> - Now draw the sketch of the room you chose on a sheet of paper. |
| :---: | :---: |
| 15 minutes | - On your sketch, create a grid using the Digit marks, as shown below: <br> - Count the number of squares in your diagram. <br> - Notice that the side length of the small square is 1 digit, so we call it a unit square. |
| 15 minutes | - The number of squares inside the sketch is called the Area of the sketch. <br> - Area is the size of the floor surface inside a certain shape, which is the count of unit squares enclosed within. <br> - In the example above, we saw that the sketch has 40 unit squares within, so its area is 40 squared Digits, and we conclude that the area of the room is 40 Squared Feet. <br> - What is the area of your sketch? (in squared Digits) |


|  | - What is the area of your room? (in squared feet) <br> *Foot measure used here is the Learner's foot size and not the universal Foot <br> scale. |
| :---: | :---: |
| $\mathbf{3 0}$ minutes | - In scale drawing, you can choose any scale you like and mention that on <br> your drawing. For example, in some maps the scale can be 1:10'000, <br> which is 1 centimetre representing 100 meters. |
| - Try to answer the questions on the Day 1 Worksheet without using a |  |
| calculator. |  |

## Day 2

Today you will draw the sketch of your house floor map.

| Suggested <br> Duration | Activity and Description <br> 5 minutes <br> - Today you will draw a sketch of the house floor map using a Digit to <br> represent 1Foot. <br> When doing this, Architects imagine that the roof of the house is <br> transparent, and we draw the map as if we are looking at the house from <br> the top like a flying bird. <br> - As an example, below is a simple floor map. |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |


|  | Source: https://www.tuko.co.ke/276066-3-bedroom-house-plans-designs-kenva.html <br> What do you notice? You may notice that: <br> The walls are drawn on the map <br> There are some arcs to represent doors <br> The function of each room is marked (bedroom, kitchen, bathroom...) |
| :---: | :---: |
| 45 minutes | - Learners will draw a floor map of the house up to the scale 2 Feet : 1 Digit and then present it to the family. <br> - Try to ensure that: <br> - The floor map is up to scale (each 1 Foot of actual measure is represented by 1 Digit) <br> - The map accurately represents the actual rooms of the house <br> - The name of each room or space is written on the map (like bathroom, kitchen...etc.) |
| 10 minutes | - Learners present the floor map to their parents Parents will provide feedback to the learner <br> - What they love most about the floor plan <br> - Suggested areas of improvement <br> The learner will use the feedback to revise the floor plan |
| 10 minutes | - Learners calculate without using a calculator the overall area of the house using the floor map: this is done by adding the areas of the different rooms or spaces inside the house. <br> - Learners will also calculate without using a calculator the Perimeter of the house. |
| 5 minutes | - Present answers to one of the parents <br> - Criteria: <br> - Followed the methods used in this lesson, or logically deducted an own method <br> - The answers are correct |

## Day 3

Today you will practice division.

| Suggested <br> Duration | Activity and Description |
| :--- | :--- |



|  | - This way, the answer is written as $2 \frac{1}{3}$ because each family got 2 whole pizzas and one third of a pizza. |
| :---: | :---: |
| 30 minutes | - Solve the Day 3 Worksheet Question 1 without using a calculator. |
| 10 minutes | - Architects use the different measurements of the house to calculate the material needed to complete the house construction. For example: using the area, they can calculate how many tiles they need to cover the floor. <br> - For example: A room of $L 7 m$ and $W 5 m$, is to be covered by square tiles of $S=0.5$; how many tiles are required? |


|  | - If you notice on the sketch above, each unit square will take 4 tiles of side 0.5 . <br> - So, the number of tiles can be calculated in 2 steps: First calculating the room Area $=7 \times 5=35$ squared m . Then multiplying the area by $4,35 \times 4=140$ tiles. <br> - Another Method <br> First calculating the room Area $=7 \times 5=35$ squared m . <br> Then calculating the tile area $=0.5 \times 0.5=0.25$ <br> Then dividing the Area of the room by the area of the tile: $35 \div 0.25$ <br> - As you know 0.25 is $\frac{25}{100}$ $35 \div 0.25=35 \div \frac{25}{100}=35 \times \frac{100}{25}=35 \times 4=140 \text { tiles. }$ <br> - As you see above, we solved a division problem using multiplication. |
| :---: | :---: |
| 15 minutes | - Now it is your turn to calculate without using a calculator: if you were to change the tiles in your house with square tiles of side 0.5 foot, how many tiles would you need? |
| 5 minutes | - Show your solution and answer to one of the parents. <br> - Criteria: <br> - The method is correct with logical steps <br> - The answer is correct |
| 10 minutes | - Solve Questions 2 and 3 on the Day 3 Worksheet without using a calculator, and show your work and answers to one of your parents |

## Day 4

Today you will do a treasure hunt!

| Suggested <br> Duration | Activity and Description |
| :--- | :--- |
| $\mathbf{3 0}$ minutes | - Learners will hide 3 items around the house and will mark where they <br> hid them on the floor map. They will ask 3 family members to find one of <br> the hidden items each. <br> - If that was too easy, they can make it harder by hiding smaller items, and <br> giving an approximate location. |


| 30 minutes | - Learners will explore how we could help people navigate using verbal instructions. <br> - Learners will imagine how they would help a blind person who could not see the map. They will blindfold one of their family members and give them directions to go from one location to another in the house using the following verbal directions only: <br> o Move (a number of) steps forward <br> - Turn to the left <br> - Turn to the right |
| :---: | :---: |
| 10 minutes | - Questions for discussion with family members <br> - How good were your directions to guide the blindfolded member? <br> - Did you have to correct any of the directions you gave? Why? <br> - How do you think boats navigate their way in the sea without using technology? <br> - Imagine ways to help sailors navigate in the oceans when they are unable to see land. Hint: Learners can be prompted to look out into the sky and imagine the north star (the brightest star in the sky) and the direction that the sun rises (east) and sets (west). |
| 10 inutes | - Literacy extension and Reflection questions <br> - What did you like the most about this project? <br> - Using what you have learned in this project, what floor maps would you like to draw? (probing: playground, your school, another house, ...etc) <br> - If you were the architect to design this house, what would you change while keeping the same total area of the house? |

Additional enrichment activities:

Modifications for
simplification

Draw the floor map of another space (School, playground...)

A simpler version of this project can be to learn how to draw floor mapping of a rectangular space using simple conversion of Foot to Digit and counting the unit squares enclosed to find the area.

## Assessment criteria

A majority of my students were able to:Accurately and calearly draw the their house floor mapanswer worksheet questions correctly using methods and skills introduced in earlier activities.Learners are engaged and show grit while working on project tasksprovide clear and effective verbal instructions when guiding a blindfolded family member.

## APPENDIX

## Day 1 worksheet

Answer the below questions without using a calculator

1. Draw a floor map of a room whose Length is 14 Feet, and Width is 12 Feet, using the scale 2 Foot is represented by 1 Digit

Then find the area of this room in Squared Feet.
2. A rectangle has an area of 20 Squared Feet. Its Length is 5 Feet. What is its width?

Hint: use the formula $A=L \times W$,

$$
20=5 \times ?
$$

3. A rectangle has an area of 35 Squared Feet. One of its sides measures 5 Feet, can you find the measure of the other side?
4. Find the Area and Perimeter of the house in the sketch below. Each unit on the sketch represents 1 meter.

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## Day 3 worksheet

Answer the below questions without using a calculator

1. Find the answer to the below division problems.
$9 \div 3=$
$18 \div 3=$
$18 \div 6=$
$12 \div 2=$
$13 \div 2=$
$24 \div 3=$
$25 \div 3=$
$11 \div 5=$
$23 \div 5=$
$17 \div 4=$
$23 \div 6=$
$31 \div 5=$
$19 \div 2=$
$14 \div 3=$

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2. The perimeter of a rectangular room is 20 m . Its Width is 4 m , what is its Length?
3. A rectangular room is 12 m by 7 m . How many square tiles of side 0.5 m are required to cover the floor?

