May Grade 7: 6A: Designing a Building

Content Area: **Science**
Course(s):
Time Period: **May**
Length: **3 Weeks**
Status: **Published**

Unit Overview

Some engineers are responsible for the overall design of a building. In this concept, you will learn about building design.

Enduring Understandings

By the end of the lesson, students should be able to:

- Identify and describe the importance of buildings.
- Describe how engineers design buildings.
- Identify the subsystems of a building and discuss ways they work together.
- Explain how the natural environment affects the design of a building.

Essential Questions

- **Overarching Question**
    - How do engineers solve problems?
- **Focus Question**
    - What are the criteria and constraints of a successful solution?
- **Lesson Questions**
    - How are buildings designed to meet people's needs?
    - What are the subsystems of a building, and how do they work together?
    - How does the natural environment affect the design of a building?
- **Can You Explain?**
    - How are buildings designed to meet both the needs of their inhabitants and the constraints of their surrounding environment?

Instructional Strategies & Learning Activities

DISCOVERY TECHBOOK LESSONS:

The Five Es

- The Five E Instructional Model

  Science Techbook follows the 5E instructional model. As you plan your lesson, the provided Model Lesson includes strategies for each of the 5Es.

- Engage (45–90 minutes)

  Students begin to consider how the needs of humans are met by the various buildings that are designed for humans to live and work in. Students begin to formulate ideas around the Can You Explain? (CYE) question.

- Explore (135 minutes)

  Students investigate the factors that influence the form and function of building design. They work through a simulation in which the structural integrity of a building is tested against Earth's tremors.

- Explain (45–90 minutes)

  Students construct scientific explanations to the CYE question by including evidence of the ways in which a building's design is impacted by the needs of the intended inhabitants and by the surrounding environment.

- Elaborate with STEM (90–180 minutes)

  Students apply their understanding of building design as they learn about the work of designers on "intelligent" buildings, investigate roof technology, and design a house.

- Evaluate (45–90 minutes)

  Students are evaluated on the state science standards, as well as Standards in ELA/Literacy and Standards in Math standards, using Board Builder and the provided concept summative assessments.

Integration of Career Exploration, Life Literacies and Key Skills

Students will explore the careers involved in building design and engineering.

CRP.K-12.CRP1	Act as a responsible and contributing citizen and employee.
CRP.K-12.CRP2	Apply appropriate academic and technical skills.
CRP.K-12.CRP3	Attend to personal health and financial well-being.
CRP.K-12.CRP4	Communicate clearly and effectively and with reason.
CRP.K-12.CRP5	Consider the environmental, social and economic impacts of decisions.
CRP.K-12.CRP6	Demonstrate creativity and innovation.
CRP.K-12.CRP7	Employ valid and reliable research strategies.
CRP.K-12.CRP8	Utilize critical thinking to make sense of problems and persevere in solving them.
CRP.K-12.CRP9	Model integrity, ethical leadership and effective management.
CRP.K-12.CRP10	Plan education and career paths aligned to personal goals.
CRP.K-12.CRP11	Use technology to enhance productivity.
CRP.K-12.CRP12	Work productively in teams while using cultural global competence.
TECH.9.4.8.CI.4	Explore the role of creativity and innovation in career pathways and industries.
	Gathering and evaluating knowledge and information from a variety of sources, including global perspectives, fosters creativity and innovative thinking.
	Increases in the quantity of information available through electronic means have heightened the need to check sources for possible distortion, exaggeration, or misrepresentation.
	Some digital tools are appropriate for gathering, organizing, analyzing, and presenting information, while other types of digital tools are appropriate for creating text, visualizations, models, and communicating with others.
	Multiple solutions often exist to solve a problem.
	An individual's strengths, lifestyle goals, choices, and interests affect employment and income.

Technolgy Integration

Technology is fully integrated using Discovery Techbook.

TECH.8.2.8.C	Design: The design process is a systematic approach to solving problems.
TECH.8.2.8.C.1	Explain how different teams/groups can contribute to the overall design of a product.
TECH.8.2.8.C.2	Explain the need for optimization in a design process.
TECH.8.2.8.C.3	Evaluate the function, value, and aesthetics of a technological product or system, from the perspective of the user and the producer.
TECH.8.2.8.C.5b	Create a technical sketch of a product with materials and measurements labeled.
TECH.8.2.8.C.CS1	The attributes of design.
TECH.8.2.8.D.2	Identify the design constraints and trade-offs involved in designing a prototype (e.g., how the prototype might fail and how it might be improved) by completing a design problem and reporting results in a multimedia presentation, design portfolio or engineering notebook.
TECH.8.2.8.D.3	Build a prototype that meets a STEM-based design challenge using science, engineering, and math principles that validate a solution.
TECH.8.2.8.D.5	Explain the impact of resource selection and the production process in the development of a common or technological product or system.

TECH.8.2.8.D.6	Identify and explain how the resources and processes used in the production of a current technological product can be modified to have a more positive impact on the environment.
TECH.8.2.8.D.CS1	Apply the design process.
TECH.8.2.8.D.CS3	Assess the impact of products and systems.

Interdisciplinary Connections

LA.RST.6-8.1	Cite specific textual evidence to support analysis of science and technical texts.
LA.RST.6-8.2	Determine the central ideas or conclusions of a text; provide an accurate summary of the text distinct from prior knowledge or opinions.
LA.RST.6-8.3	Follow precisely a multistep procedure when carrying out experiments, taking measurements, or performing technical tasks.
LA.RST.6-8.4	Determine the meaning of symbols, key terms, and other domain-specific words and phrases as they are used in a specific scientific or technical context relevant to grades 6-8 texts and topics.
LA.RST.6-8.5	Analyze the structure an author uses to organize a text, including how the major sections contribute to the whole and to an understanding of the topic.
LA.RST.6-8.6	Analyze the author's purpose in providing an explanation, describing a procedure, or discussing an experiment in a text.
LA.RST.6-8.7	Integrate quantitative or technical information expressed in words in a text with a version of that information expressed visually (e.g., in a flowchart, diagram, model, graph, or table).
LA.RST.6-8.8	Distinguish among facts, reasoned judgment based on research findings, and speculation in a text.
LA.RST.6-8.9	Compare and contrast the information gained from experiments, simulations, video, or multimedia sources with that gained from reading a text on the same topic.
LA.RST.6-8.10	By the end of grade 8, read and comprehend science/technical texts in the grades 6-8 text complexity band independently and proficiently.
LA.WHST.6-8.1	Write arguments focused on discipline-specific content.
LA.WHST.6-8.2	Write informative/explanatory texts, including the narration of historical events, scientific procedures/experiments, or technical processes.
LA.WHST.6-8.4	Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, voice, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.
LA.WHST.6-8.5	With some guidance and support from peers and adults, develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, editing, rewriting, or trying a new approach, focusing on how well purpose and audience have been addressed.
LA.WHST.6-8.6	Use technology, including the Internet, to produce and publish writing and present the relationships between information and ideas clearly and efficiently.
LA.WHST.6-8.7	Conduct short research projects to answer a question (including a self-generated question), drawing on several sources and generating additional related, focused questions that allow for multiple avenues of exploration.
LA.WHST.6-8.8	Gather relevant information from multiple print and digital sources, using search terms effectively; assess the credibility and accuracy of each source; and quote or paraphrase the data and conclusions of others while avoiding plagiarism and following a standard format for citation.
LA.WHST.6-8.9	Draw evidence from informational texts to support analysis, reflection, and research.

MA.6.EE.B.6	Use variables to represent numbers and write expressions when solving a real-world or mathematical problem; understand that a variable can represent an unknown number, or, depending on the purpose at hand, any number in a specified set.
MA.7.EE.B	Solve real-life and mathematical problems using numerical and algebraic expressions and equations.
MA.7.EE.B.3	Solve multi-step real-life and mathematical problems posed with positive and negative rational numbers in any form (whole numbers, fractions, and decimals), using tools strategically. Apply properties of operations to calculate with numbers in any form; convert between forms as appropriate; and assess the reasonableness of answers using mental computation and estimation strategies.
MA.7.EE.B.4	Use variables to represent quantities in a real-world or mathematical problem, and construct simple equations and inequalities to solve problems by reasoning about the quantities.

Differentiation

See differentiation suggestions in the above lessons.

Differentiation Strategies

Struggling Students

1. Ask students to conduct an interview with a parent, grandparent, or other older relative about how their houses were different than they are today, focusing on one or more subsystems.

ELL

1. Provide students with access to the Spanish versions of the reading passages so that they do not miss any content.
    - Buildings and Their Subsystems (Spanish version)
    - Green Buildings (Spanish version)
2. Allow students to use the Spanish version of the Quake It, Don't Shake It virtual lab.

Accelerated Students

1. Assign students to research how technology is being used in modern skyscrapers to help make them more resistant to earthquakes.
2. Ask students to research and compare houses built in regions of the country that differ widely in climate. For example, students might compare houses built in Maine or Alaska with those built in Florida or southern California. Students should focus on differences in design resulting from location conditions.

Differentiation in science can be accomplished in several ways. Once you have given a pre-test to students, you know what information has already been mastered and what they still need to work on. Next, you design activities, discussions, lectures, and so on to teach information to students. The best way is to have two or three groups of students divided by ability level.

While you are instructing one group, the other groups are working on activities to further their knowledge of the concepts. For example, while you are helping one group learn the planet names in order, another group is researching climate, size, and distance from the moon of each planet. Then the groups switch, and you instruct the second group on another objective from the space unit. The first group practices writing the order of the planets and drawing a diagram of them.

Here are some ideas for the classroom when you are using differentiation in science:

- Create a tic-tac-toe board that lists different activities at different ability levels. When students aren't involved in direct instruction with you, they can work on activities from their tic-tac-toe board. These boards have nine squares, like a tic-tac-toe board; and each square lists an activity that corresponds with the science unit. For example, one solar system activity for advanced science students might be to create a power point presentation about eclipses. For beginning students, an activity might be to make a poster for one of the planets and include important data such as size, order from the sun, whether it has moons, and so on.

- Find websites on the current science unit that students can explore on their own.

- Allow students to work in small groups to create a project throughout the entire unit. For example, one group might create a solar system model to scale. Another group might write a play about the solar system. This is an activity these groups can work on while they are not working directly with you.

Differentiation in science gets students excited to learn because it challenges them to expand their knowledge and skills, instead of teaching the whole group concepts they have already mastered.

Modifications & Accommodations

Refer to QSAC EXCEL SMALL SPED ACCOMMOCATIONS spreadsheet in this discipline.

Modifications and Accommodations used in this unit:

In addition to differentiated instruction, IEP's and 504 accommocations will be utilized.

Benchmark Assessments

Benchmark Assessments are given periodically (e.g., at the end of every quarter or as frequently as once per month) throughout a school year to establish baseline achievement data and measure progress toward a standard or set of academic standards and goals.

Schoolwide Benchmark assessments:

Aimsweb benchmarks 3X a year

Linkit Benchmarks 3X a year

Additional Benchmarks used in this unit:

Science Benchmarks are given in Dec. and June.

Formative Assessments

Assessment allows both instructor and student to monitor progress towards achieving learning objectives, and can be approached in a variety of ways. **Formative assessment** refers to tools that identify misconceptions, struggles, and learning gaps along the way and assess how to close those gaps. It includes effective tools for helping to shape learning, and can even bolster students' abilities to take ownership of their learning when they understand that the goal is to improve learning, not apply final marks (Trumbull and Lash, 2013). It can include students assessing themselves, peers, or even the instructor, through writing, quizzes, conversation, and more. In short, formative assessment occurs throughout a class or course, and seeks to improve student achievement of learning objectives through approaches that can support specific student needs (Theal and Franklin, 2010, p. 151).

Formative Assessments used in this unit:

See assessments located in the unit link above

Summative Assessments

Summative assessments evaluate student learning, knowledge, proficiency, or success at the conclusion of an instructional period, like a unit, course, or program. Summative assessments are almost always formally graded and often heavily weighted (though they do not need to be). Summative assessment can be used to great effect in conjunction and alignment with formative assessment, and instructors can consider a variety of ways to combine these approaches.

Summative assessments for this unit:

See assessments located in the unit link above

Instructional Materials

See materials located in Unit above.

Discovery Techbook

Teacher made materials

Additonal labs available through NJCTL on line curriculum

Standards

SCI.MS.ETS1.A	Defining and Delimiting an Engineering Problem
SCI.MS.ETS1.A	Defining and Delimiting Engineering Problems
SCI.MS.ETS1.B	Developing Possible Solutions
SCI.MS.ETS1.C	Optimizing the Design Solution
SCI.MS.ETS1.C	Optimizing the Design Solution
SCI.MS-ETS1-2	Evaluate competing design solutions using a systematic process to determine how well they meet the criteria and constraints of the problem.
SCI.MS-ETS1-4	Develop a model to generate data for iterative testing and modification of a proposed object, tool, or process such that an optimal design can be achieved.
	Develop a model to generate data to test ideas about designed systems, including those representing inputs and outputs.
	Analyze and interpret data to determine similarities and differences in findings.
	Although one design may not perform the best across all tests, identifying the characteristics of the design that performed the best in each test can provide useful information for the redesign process—that is, some of those characteristics may be incorporated into the new design.
	Influence of Engineering, Technology, and Science on Society and the Natural World
	Developing and Using Models
	The iterative process of testing the most promising solutions and modifying what is proposed on the basis of the test results leads to greater refinement and ultimately to an optimal solution.
	Analyzing data in 6–8 builds on K–5 experiences and progresses to extending quantitative analysis to investigations, distinguishing between correlation and causation, and basic statistical techniques of data and error analysis.
	The more precisely a design task's criteria and constraints can be defined, the more likely it is that the designed solution will be successful. Specification of constraints includes consideration of scientific principles and other relevant knowledge that are likely to limit possible solutions.
	Analyzing and Interpreting Data