

Pre-school nurseries develop children in many important areas. You have been asked to design a toy which develop one of the following skills in pre-school children:

- Shape and colour matching skills
- Counting and number skills
- Building and simple construction skills

Marks will be awarded for:

- (6) A creative solution that meets your design criteria
- (5) Specific names of materials and construction techniques
- (4) Surface decoration and/or finishes

Which of the three skills is your toy aimed at developing?

Intellectual skills - matching numbers to help learn shape of numbers
 physical - picking up the toy, turning it
 communication

In the space below draw your design for the toy

Complete the table showing important criteria for your toy and give your reasons. An example has been provided.

Design criteria	Reasons
1 The toy must present no safety hazards	Young children often place toys in their mouths so must not be too small to choke on and must not have any sharp edges
2 The toy must help children to learn colour matching	Learning numbers will help children to develop new skills
3 The toy must be brightly coloured	Young children are attracted to bright colours, they will want to pick up the toy and play with it

Do a little bit well
 60mm
 min. ornamentation
 No repetition

5

5

FUNCTION

- Match the detachable shape to the cube, using velcro.

Materials

felt - can be cut for without fraying
 sustainable material

cotton for cube - sustainable
 easy to dye, soft to touch

Velcro patches to attach numbers

Construction

- Blanket stitching around edges to add visual interest
- Net of cube cut from cotton with fabric scissors
- felt applique numbers stitched on with sewing machine
- Number patches = 2 pieces of felt stitched together
- velcro patch stitched on back.

Aesthetics Decoration

- Bright colours of felt to attract children's attention

Further developments
 Evaluate your design against each of the three criteria listed above

Criteria 1
 The product meets safety requirements as it has no small parts that could become choking hazards. It is made from a soft material with no sharp corners or edges.

Criteria 2
 It will help children to colour match, as they must attach the correct shape and colour to the soft cube.

Criteria 3
 The toy has bright primary and secondary colours to attract the child to play with it.

6

25