

# Design Thinking in the Classroom

## What's the Problem?

Designing School for Play.... Not the Rules

Charles C. James



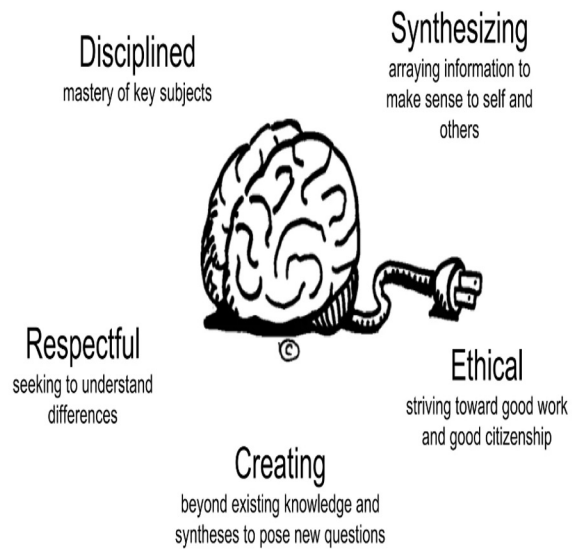
THE CENTER *for* TRANSFORMATIVE  
TEACHING & LEARNING™  
AT ST. ANDREW'S EPISCOPAL SCHOOL

Making School More Like A Game We Play...  
Rather Than the Rules We Follow....



# Howard Gardner's 5 Minds for the Future

## Five Minds for the Future

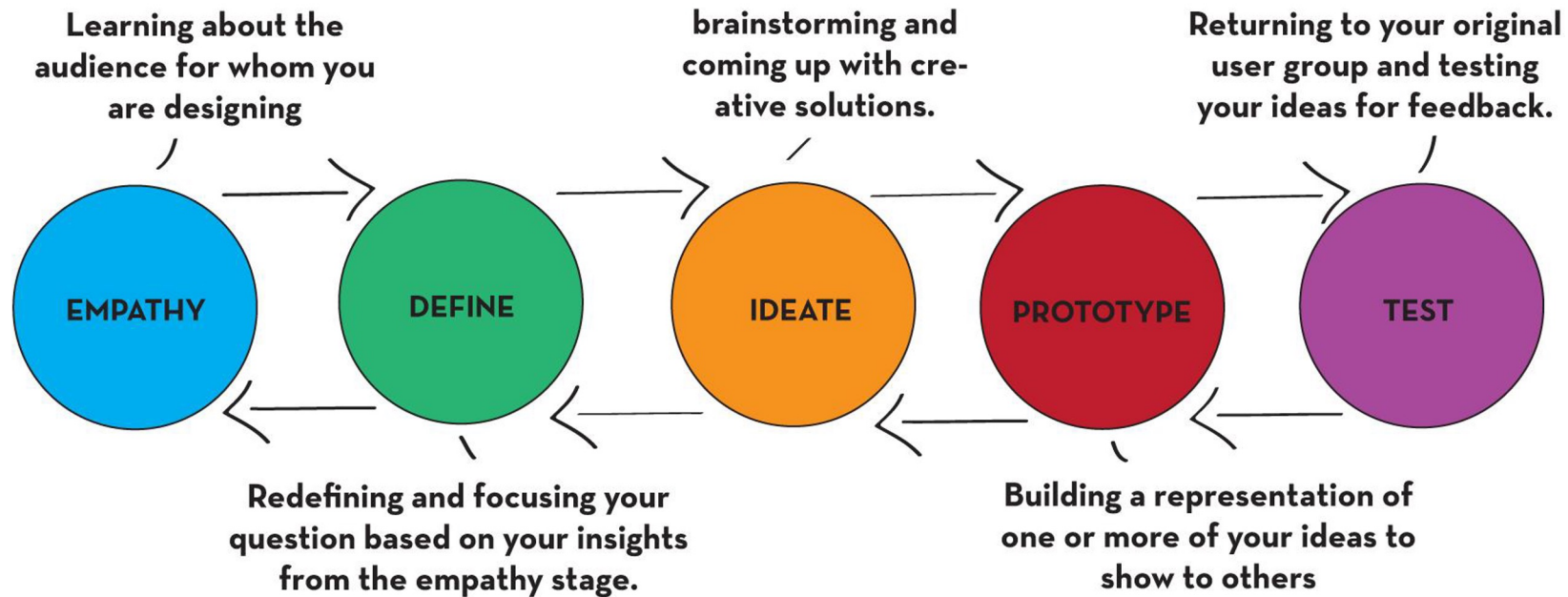


- Choice
- Challenge
- Control
- Collaboration
- Construction of Meaning
- Consequence

## Learning vs. teaching

- ▶ *Teaching does not produce learning. Successful repetitive attempts by a learner to practice and use what they know in order to achieve a goal causes learning.*

# Design Thinking Toolkit



## 4 useful Q's to ask yourself....

- ▶ What am I teaching?
- ▶ Why am I teaching it?
- ▶ How does what I teach help the student understand what matters?
- ▶ What unique, personal, and unscripted product must the student produce as evidence of their learning?



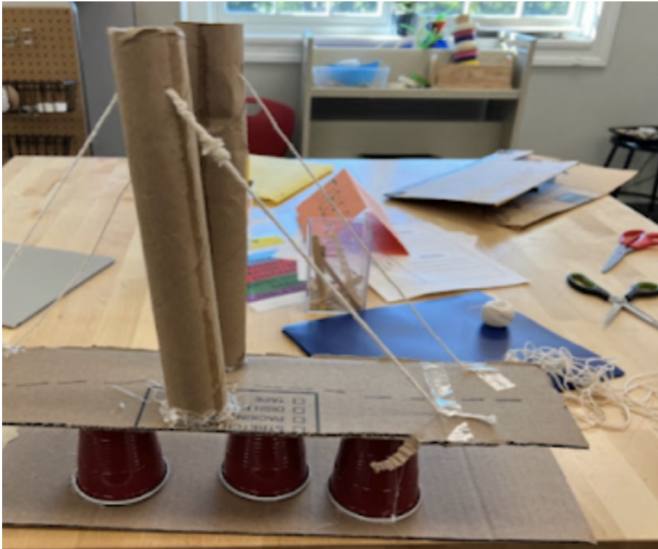
# Backward Design:

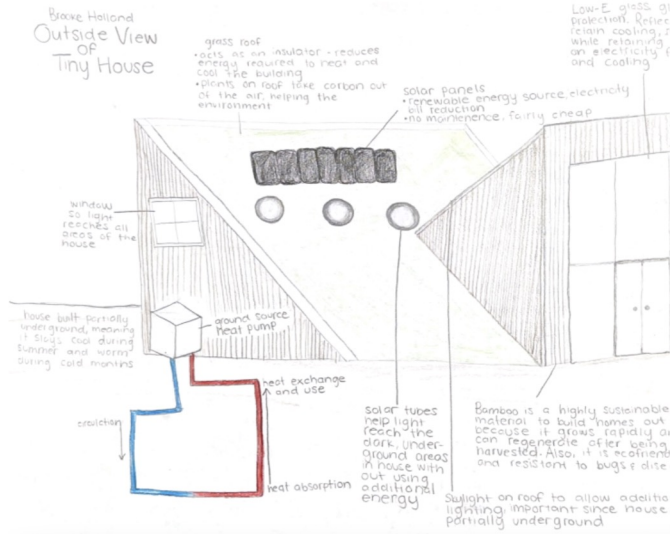
I want my 3<sup>rd</sup> graders to learn about how a bridge supports weight.

so that, in the long run, they will be able, on their own

Apply an understanding of how bridges support the weight of cars and truck. [a long-term desired accomplishment, involving important transfer or extension of learning]

So, I asked the students to design a new bridge that would span the Potomac River from Virginia to Washington, DC.





# Backward Design:

I want my 10<sup>th</sup> grade students to learn \_\_\_\_\_ (Concept, Content)

I want my students to learn about sustainable home construction and accurately calculate a carbon footprint profile.

so that, in the now and in the future, they will be able, on their own to \_\_\_\_\_ [a long-term desired accomplishment, involving important transfer or extension of learning].

They will be able to identify practices and processes that have low impact upon our planet's resources.

So, I asked my students to design an earth friendly tiny house that has a low carbon impact during construction and to live in.

MATERIAL CARBON EMISSIONS BY SECTION	
Footings & Slabs	-390 kg CO <sub>2</sub> e
Foundation Walls	0 kg CO <sub>2</sub> e
Structural Elements	0 kg CO <sub>2</sub> e
Interior Walls	0 kg CO <sub>2</sub> e
Party Walls	0 kg CO <sub>2</sub> e
Exterior Wall Cladding	10,544 kg CO <sub>2</sub> e
Windows	0 kg CO <sub>2</sub> e
Interior Walls	17,780 kg CO <sub>2</sub> e
Floors	-390 kg CO <sub>2</sub> e
Ceilings	1,211 kg CO <sub>2</sub> e
Roof	0 kg CO <sub>2</sub> e
Garage	0 kg CO <sub>2</sub> e
<b>NET TOTAL</b>	<b>28,755 kg CO<sub>2</sub>e</b> -5,000 E (kg CO <sub>2</sub> e)



# Remarks made

Sts need long-term projects

Our classes must have choice... alternate projects... responses to situations... not everyone doing the same...

How can we challenge students

How can we give them a sense of control.

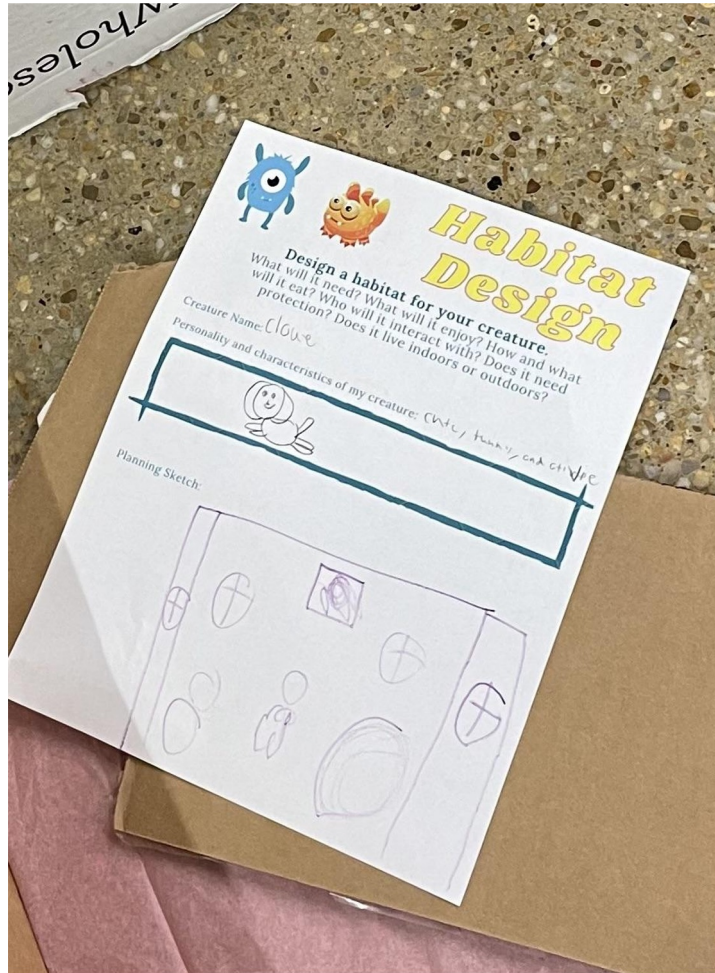
Where do your students find success?

Part of teaching is exposing sts to our world from creative perspectives...

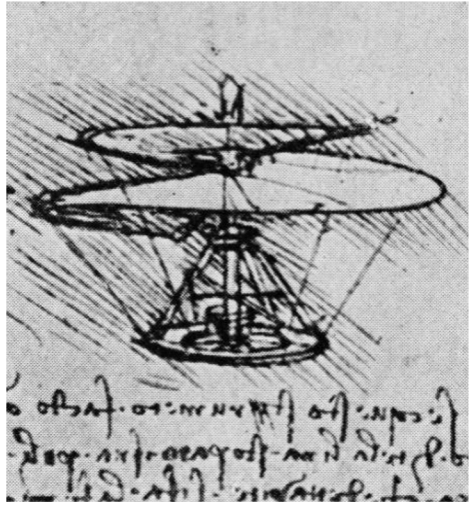
What is our obstacle to working like this? How can we set time aside to address these barriers and remove them?

It's important we learn about assessment tools that honour our methodology and guide our most valued goals...

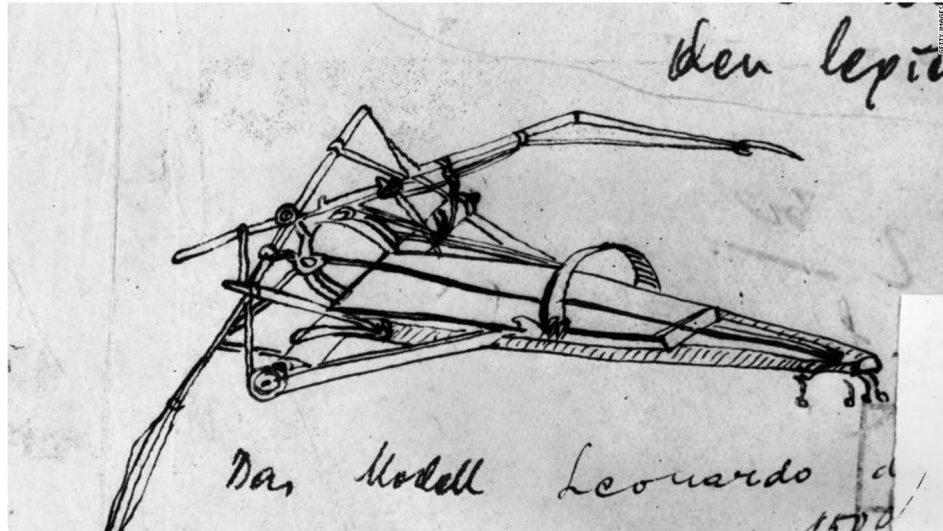
# Early Childhood- Grounded in content, Unique, individual, and unscripted.



# Innovation: A design-based approach



Leonardo Da Vinci:  
Ideas for Flight  
came from  
butterflies.



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What do art and design have in common with engineering?  
What is different between the fields?



Reverse engineering is looking at a functional form and engineering an efficient way to design an object with a similar function. For example, air foils are designed in part with inspiration from a birds' wing.



# Developing a design

Compare the existing technology on the left with the artist's model on the right. What did the artist do to create a unique design from an existing technology?



<http://www.cityfarmer.info/2014/08/19/proposed-floating-vertical-farms-for-singapore/>





### Reverse engineering:

Wooly Pocket is one British company which has engineered and sells containers for vertical planters. Each design is modular; the example on the right shows the structure underneath the wall on the left. The principle is related to the multicellular design of a honeycomb. Planters can be moved around and rearranged to the designer's or client's liking.

## Design Thinking as Beauty and Function

Jason deCaires Taylor , Silent Evolution, Cancun National Marine Park, MX

### Environmental Restoration:

Coral Reef created from sunken statue installation, 400 life sized human statues to protect the Mesoamerican Reef





Is this design thinking? What paradigm did Sze apply?

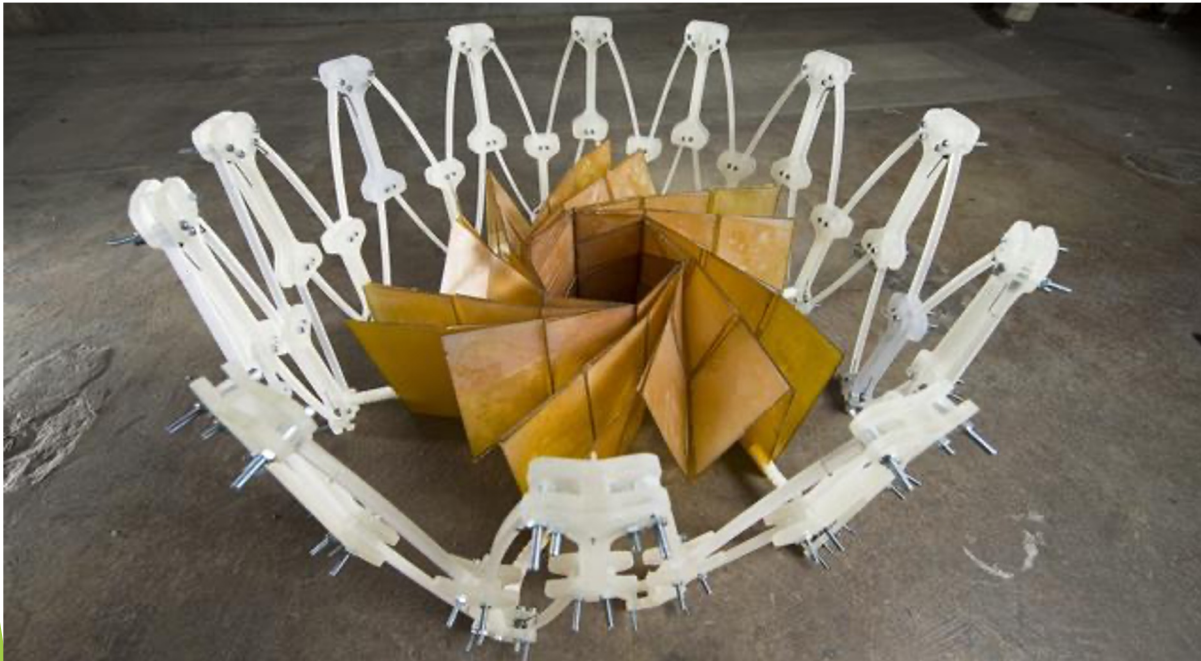
“Still Life with Landscape: Study for a Habitat,” NYC High Line  
Sarah Sze, 2013

Sarah Sze’s “Still Life with Landscape: Study for a Habitat,” created a functional habitat on the High Line public park, while the exaggerated perspective of the sculpture created an implied depth of field.



# Origami: Modelling FORMS and FUNCTIONS.

Solar array, NASA satellite



White elephant, life-sized single sheet origami sculpture,  
Sipho [Mabona](#) - Materials exploration, not design innovation



# Applied design

## Sea Bin

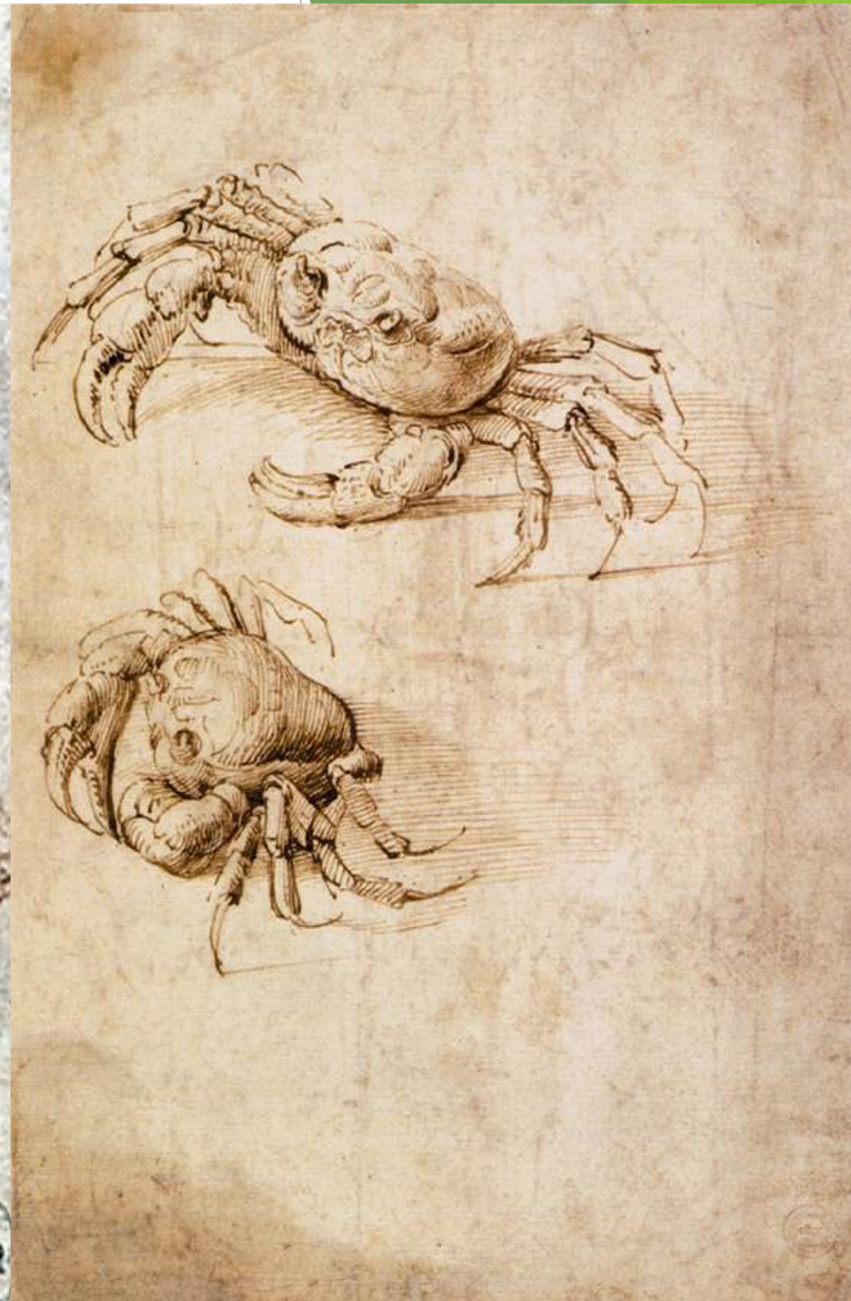


- ▶ What paradigm is used?  
What model do you need to draw?  
How can you turn this into a functional design sketch?



# Observational drawing

What sort of information do you think can be learned from drawing nature?



# Create a costume for an environmental citizenship mascot that emerges from discarded trash.

## Design Challenge

- ▶ Design challenge: use **MOSTLY** repurposed materials to have zero to low environmental impact
- ▶ Outfit must be lightweight and able to **compact/expand**.
- ▶ Outfit must be able to be lifted on/off.

## Scaffolding into the assignment

- ▶ Intro skills: 1) paper folding
- ▶ and paper sculpture 2) creating a pattern/scale model 3) presenting your idea.
- ▶ Use rubric to evaluate BOTH art and environmental science component.
- ▶ Include rationale of **TOTAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT** of costume design.
- ▶