

3 CLIL Da Vinci's design

Summary

Two teams take part in a competition to design carts based on 500-year-old drawings by the Italian Renaissance artist Leonardo da Vinci. We follow the design and development of the carts and find out which of the two is the fastest in a race.

Background

Leonardo da Vinci (1452–1519) is seen in the West as the epitome of the Renaissance man, a phrase used to describe an individual of great talent and knowledge who excels in several fields in the arts and sciences.

Before you watch

1 Answer the question.

- Ask the class: *Do you know the names of any paintings or drawings by Leonardo da Vinci?*
- Elicit students' answers and write them on the board.
- If you have access to the Internet and an interactive whiteboard, put some works by da Vinci up and ask students to say what they think of them.

Suggested answers

Students should be able to name the *Mona Lisa* (or *La Gioconda* as it is also known). They may also come up with *The Last Supper* or da Vinci's famous drawing entitled *Vitruvian Man*.

While you watch

2 Watch and tick the words you hear.

- Tell students they are going to watch a video about teams attempting to design a cart from 500-year-old drawings by Leonardo da Vinci.
- Put the following words on the board for students to write in their notebooks: *calculator, l-square, ruler, computer, scissors, pens, TV, pencil, rubber, camera, tape measure, paper, pencil sharpener*.
- Check students' understanding of the words and then ask them to put a cross (x) alongside the ones they expect to hear in the video.
- Play the video for students to tick the words in the list that are used in the video.

Answers

The following are all heard in the video: *l-square, ruler, 3D, computer, pens, pencil, rubber, tape measure and paper*.

3 Watch and write questions.

- Tell students they are going to watch the video again and write four comprehension questions to ask their partner.
- Play the video.
- Students write their questions. Monitor and help as necessary.
- Put students into pairs to ask and answer the questions.

Suggested questions

How many teams are there? (two)
What do they study first? (the drawings)
How do they design the 3D carts? (with a computer)
Which cart wins the race? (the dark brown one)

After you watch

4 Work with a partner. Answer the questions.

- Put students into pairs to answer the following questions:
 - a Which is your favourite cart from the video – the light brown one or the dark brown one?
 - b Would you like to make da Vinci's cart?
 - c What colour would your cart be?
- Ask some students to report back to the class on their partner's ideas.

Extension Activity

5 Describe and draw the cart.

- Ask students to describe and draw the cart from the video, e.g. *The cart is small and made of wood. It is brown and has four wheels.*
- Collect and check students' descriptions in the next lesson.

6 Find your favourite work of art by Leonardo da Vinci.

- Ask students research da Vinci's paintings, drawings, designs and sculptures.
- They could use this website as a resource (<http://www.wga.hu/frames-e.html?/html//leonardo/>), but will be able to find other online resources themselves.
- They share their favourite work of art by da Vinci with a partner at the beginning of the next lesson.



Da Vinci's Design

These are drawings of a cart by the famous artist, Leonardo da Vinci. They're more than 500 hundred years old.

And these men are in a competition. They want to build Da Vinci's cart.

First they study the drawings.

How do they make these 2D drawings into these 3D carts?

They use pens and paper to draw their designs. They draw the wheels of the cart with a ruler. They design the 3D cart with a computer.

Now they can build it. They use lots of different tools ... a tape measure ... a soft pencil and a rubber, and an L-square. And now, the two teams race their carts.

They're off!

Both carts look great, but the brown cart is faster.

Leonardo's plans really work!