



ACTION BASED ACTIVITIES

TOPIC N3.3 : HOME AND GARDEN DESIGN

THEME N3 DOMESTIC AND EVERYDAY LIFE



APPLICATION OF NUMBER

LEVELS 1 & 2

ISSUED SEPTEMBER 2005

INSTRUCTIONS

WHAT DO I DO?

Use this Theme Template to help you:

- plan an Action-based Activity on the theme of Domestic and Everyday Life
- carry out an investigation into the subject
- produce evidence needed for your portfolio.

NOTE: Use this booklet WITH your Learner's Planner and Guide.

WHAT IS ASSESSED?

Domestic and Everyday Life is one of six themes you can choose for your Action-based Activity/portfolio work. It includes topics such as:

N3.1 Managing a Family Budget

N3.2 Diet

N3.3 HOME AND GARDEN DESIGN

APPLICATION OF NUMBER

TOPIC N3.3 : HOME AND GARDEN DESIGN

TOPIC N3.3 HOME AND GARDEN DESIGN

Home and Garden Design is a big topic and one that is very popular these days. You will need to narrow down the topic for your study. This guide will take you step by step from getting started, to writing and checking your final pieces of work. Each step follows Part Two of your *Learner's Planner & Guide*, so read it alongside this Theme Template.



It's a good idea to follow this advice.



You must do this to get the qualification.



**STEP
A**



CHOOSING A TOPIC

One of the best ways to start thinking about a subject is to *mindmap*. You can find how to do this on page 5 of the *Learner's Planner & Guide*.

TASK 1

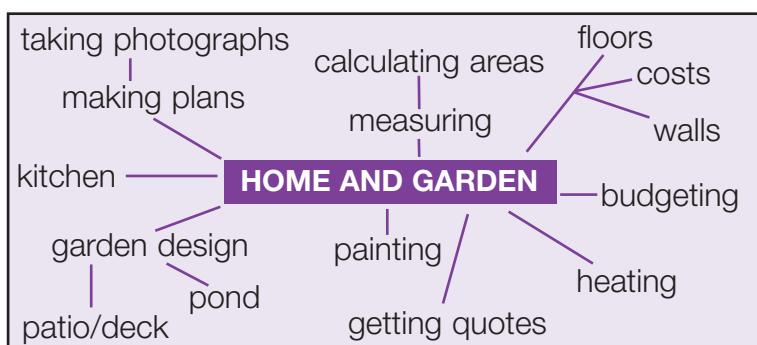
Allow about
20 minutes

On your own, or with a colleague, think about and talk about "Home and/or Garden Design" and aspects of it you might like to study.

Work together to make a **mindmap** of the subject. You may want to think about:

- which part of a home you might focus on
- whether to do a garden design rather than indoors
- draw up plans for a room or outdoors
- budget for the design
- research home design
- investigate the home design craze by carrying out a survey.

PORTFOLIO EVIDENCE – You could copy and add to the unfinished example below. This could then go into your portfolio as evidence that you have thought about your chosen subject.



ESSENTIAL SKILLS
ACTION BASED ACTIVITIES



Continued

TASK 2
Allow about 15 minutes

When you have made your mindmap, focus in on one or two ideas that:

- interest you
- will be easy to research and get information about (talk to your tutor if you are unsure).

Write these ideas down and then try to turn them into **QUESTIONS**. This will help when you write up your conclusions later. The examples in the box may help you do this.



Topic : Home and Garden Design

Original Idea	Question
Budget design	How can I change a room on a limited budget?
Re-designing a room or garden	How I will set about re-designing my garden/front room?
New kitchen or bathroom	What is the best buy for a new kitchen or bathroom?
Pond	How much would it cost to build, plant and stock a new pond?

TASK 3
Allow about 10 minutes

In your portfolio, write down your chosen title/question.

Check with your tutor that it is okay. (Remember, you can always change it later if necessary.)

TASK 4
Allow about 30 minutes



PLAN – It's a good idea next to draw up a plan of action. Make a table and on it write down what you intend to do and when you will do it by. Highlight key dates and deadlines (e.g. when you are carrying out a survey or presenting your findings).

APPLICATION OF NUMBER

TOPIC N3.3 : HOME AND GARDEN DESIGN



CHOOSING & INTERPRETING INFORMATION

Interpreting information from suitable sources is an essential part of the qualification and you must be able to show that you have collected, read and extracted information from **DIFFERENT** sources.

There are lots of ways of finding information on such as:

- books and other resources in the library
- DIY and gardening magazines and in newspapers
- using the Internet
- interviewing people about gardening and/or DIY.

TASK 5

Allow about 2-3 hours

Look for suitable documents to read. Remember:

- at **both levels 1 and 2** you must use **TWO** different sources of information.
- overall **at level 1** at least one source must include a table, chart, graph or diagram
- **at level 2** at least one source must include material containing a chart or a graph.

You will need to make careful notes as you work.

Put these in your portfolio (see also pages 8 and 9 in the *Learner's Planner & Guide*).



Topic: "How I will set about re-designing my front room?"

Title of book: *"Interior Design in Easy Steps"*
Date: *October 2001*
Author: *Ann Kevatt*
Chapter: *4 Sitting Rooms*

Main points in the chapter

1. Measure the area carefully.
2. Draw a scale plan of the room and consider making a model.
3. Research colour and materials carefully.
4. Have a clear idea of what you are aiming at.
5. Cost out every item you intend to use – prices vary a lot.
6. Use the Internet to get costings – it can save a lot of time.

Summary: You will then need to write up your notes to form a short report.

This is the main piece of portfolio evidence.



ASSESSMENT Your tutor will assess that:

- you have chosen the information you need
- you have obtained the information needed
- you have identified the best methods to get the results you need.

Remember to label sources clearly.

**STEP
C**



CARRY OUT AND CHECK CALCULATIONS

Carrying out and checking calculations is an essential part of the qualification. At each level you are required to carry out calculations to do with:

a. amounts/sizes	3	3
b. scales/proportion	3	3
c. handling statistics.	3	3
d. using formulae		3

It may be difficult to cover all the required calculations for this topic (See *Learner's Planner & Guide*, page 10).

TASK 6

Allow about
1 hour

1. Carry out calculations. You will need to:

- pick out the data/information you think will be useful
- decide on the calculations you need to find the results you want
- show calculation methods clearly
- check calculations and correct any errors

At Level 2 calculations must involve two or more steps

Talk this over with your tutor if you are at all unsure. A few ideas are given below.



CARRYING OUT AND CHECKING CALCULATIONS

Examples – Carrying out and checking calculations

At level 1:

- you might use information collected first hand as the basis of calculations (eg calculating the amount of paint you may need, the size of the carpeting/flooring or the total cost of the project). You might also carry out calculations using data from a secondary source such design books and leaflets containing tables, charts, diagrams or plans.

At level 2:

- your calculations will be more complex, perhaps comparing two sets of data on a similar subject. If you carry out a survey (e.g. on people's use of DIY) you will have plenty of data to process.



ASSESSMENT Your tutor will assess:

- how well you carried out your calculations (including your working)
- that you checked your methods
- that you spotted and corrected any errors
- that your results make sense.

**STEP
D**



INTERPRETING RESULTS & PRESENTING FINDINGS

Having collected, sorted, extracted data and carried out calculations based on them, you are now ready to interpret your findings.

TASK 7

Allow about
3 hours

1. Go through all the information you have collected and sort it out carefully. Keep only relevant information and make sure EVERYTHING is properly labelled.
2. Now sift through again and, on notepaper, write down your main findings and conclusions. Remember, your first question (Task1)? Can you now answer your question?
3. Think how you will present your information.

Remember:

- At level 1 you have to present it in **two** different ways using charts or diagrams
- At level 2 you need to present it in **two** different ways using graphs, charts or diagrams.

Other points to consider:

- Which graphs, charts or diagrams will you use to present you findings?
- How do the results of your calculations relate to the purpose of the action-based activity?

(See Learner's Planner and Guide page 12)

TASK 8

Allow about
3 hours



At this stage you will be required to present your findings to a tutor or supervisor. Before you hand your work in, check that:

- you have covered all requirements intended
- that each section has suitable headings/labelling
- that diagrams, charts, maps etc are properly labelled
- pages are numbered
- there is a contents page.

N.B. There is a checklist on page 14 of the Learner's Planner and Guide



It is a good idea to produce a draft plan/outline of what you will include in your final presentation. An example is given on the next page.

STEP
D

INTERPRETING RESULTS &
PRESENTING FINDINGS
continued



EXAMPLE OF A DRAFT PRESENTATION PLAN

Topic: carpet versus wooden flooring?

1. I will present my work as a **report** (computer typed and to include graphs, tables etc) with the sections below.
2. **Introduction** – I will include what I wanted to find out and why the subject interests me.
3. **Method** – a short section saying how I set about collecting data/information e.g. visited several shops and collected data/information. Also used the Internet.
4. **Calculations and Interpretation** – I will include how I measured the rooms and extracted information from the data collected; how I worked out best value for money.
5. **Presentation** – I will use written information and diagrams – mainly tables, graphs and a spreadsheet.
6. **Appendices** – to include some photocopied data from shops and Internet, which included prices.

I must remember to number pages and add a Contents page.



ASSESSMENT Your tutor will assess your work as follows:

At level 1 you will be assessed on:

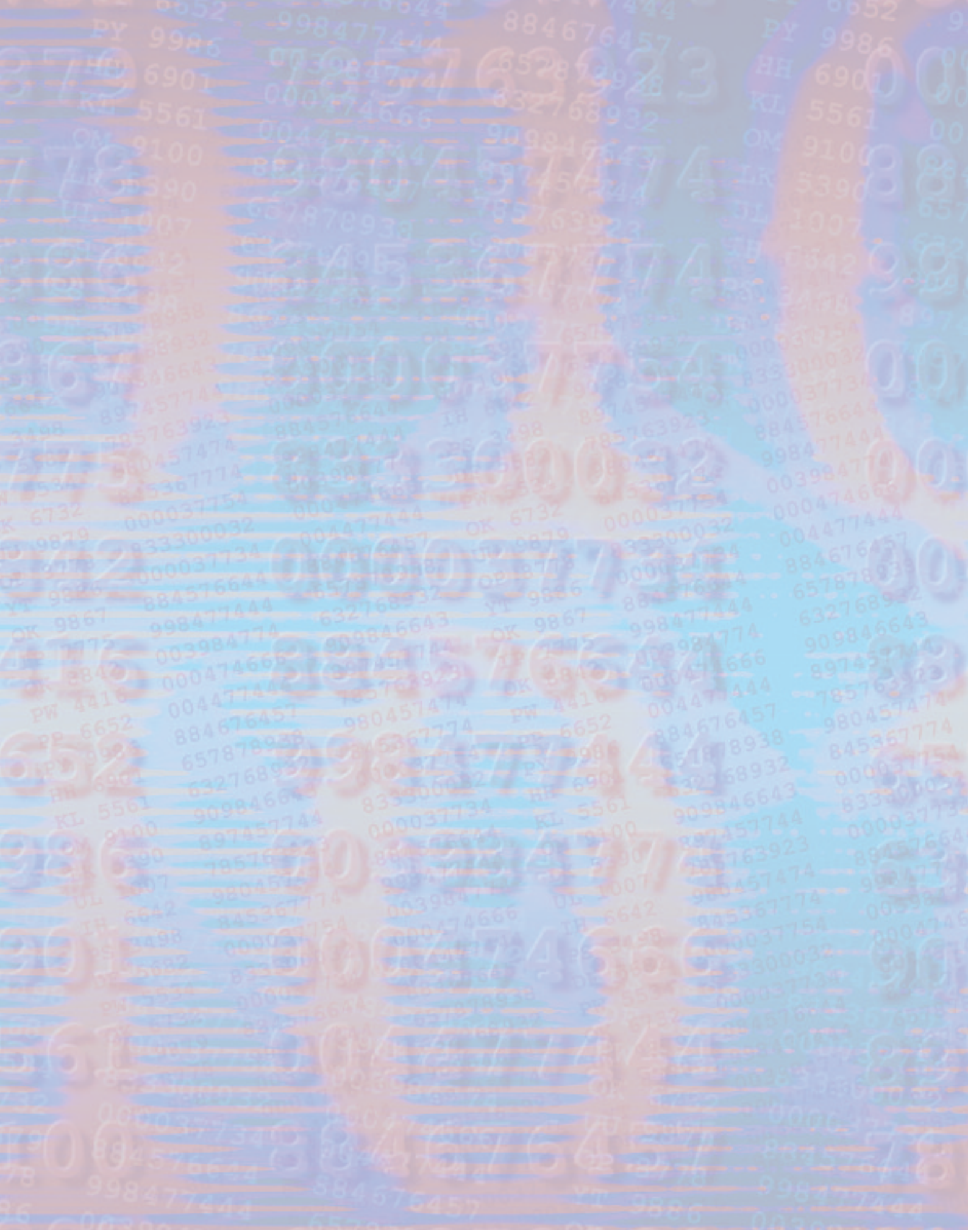
- how you have interpreted the results of calculations
- suitable choice of chart or diagram with appropriate labels and correct use of units
- how you have explained what the chart or diagrams show.

Additionally **at level 2** you will be expected to:

- describe the methods you have used
- explain the results of calculations in terms of how they meet the purpose of your chosen Activity.

**HOME AND GARDEN DESIGN
MORE ACTION-BASED ACTIVITY IDEAS**

1. Design an extension to your home. Draw your plans to scale and try to cost the construction. It could be a loft or cellar conversion or an addition.
2. Design a new garden or part of a garden. Draw your plans to scale and cost the products you will use. It could be a public space rather than your own garden.
3. Carry out a survey (of about 20 people) to find out about their DIY interests. Find out how many people have undertaken DIY home improvements in the past year, and what they spent on it.
4. Compare the cost of different kinds of floor coverings for your home. Cost each type of material and compare prices.
5. Plan a deck or seating area for a garden. Use scale drawings and compare the costs of various materials and plants.
6. Design and plan a garden pond. Use scale drawings and compare the costs of various materials and plants.
7. Investigate and compare the costs of a house conservatory using different suppliers. Identify where it would go and include all measurements.
8. Design a child's bedroom so that it has play and study space as well as a bed. Cost the materials and include scale drawings.
9. Measure and cost the paint and/or wallpaper needed for a room in your house. Include a survey of shops to find the cheapest materials.
10. Investigate alternative forms of heating for a house. Draw scale plans of the building and measure its volume. Collect data on different types of heating systems and compare.



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