

John Eggleston
Member of Independent Broadcasting Authority
Education Council, Editor, *Studies in
Design Education Craft & Technology*

Televising Craft Design and Technology

Craft, Design and Technology, for so long conspicuously absent from Schools Broadcasting on all channels, is now about to move briskly to a major role. Thames Television Education Department, following extensive discussion with the IBA Education Council, has put in hand a long term commitment to a major new series entitled Craft Design and Technology which will be networked to all independent transmitters.

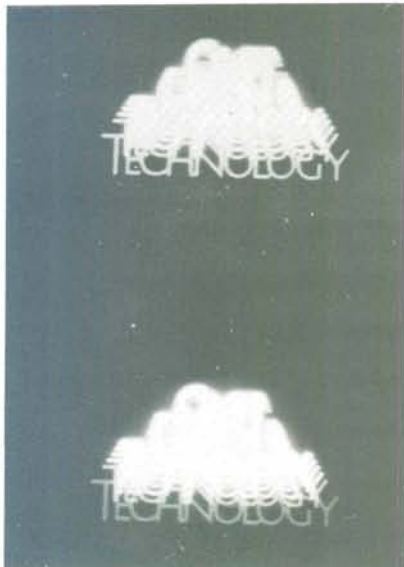
The new series will deal with a one year group at a time, beginning with 11 year-olds, and in subsequent years will build towards A level. In the first year, there will be ten programmes of fifteen minutes duration, one specifically for teachers and the remainder for pupils. Each programme will be capable of use independently.

The series will support new developments in the subject, as well as providing a useful resource for some more traditional aspects of the work. However, the primary aim of the series is to encourage teachers to involve all pupils in a range of designing, making and evaluating situations. As part of such exercises, pupils will be encouraged to develop appropriate skills in communication.

Naturally, pupils will need to understand some basic technological concepts in terms of materials, control and energy, as well as developing sensitivity towards aesthetics and environmental considerations. The development of a viable interrelationship between craft, design and technology will be one of the key features of the series.

The first ten programmes of this five-year series will lay the foundations necessary for the development of designing and making in schools. Valuable and stimulating resource material provided in these programmes will include the following:
methods of tackling design problems
technical illustration
visual elements of design

*Titles for the new
Thames Television Series.*



technological elements of design
materials

constructional techniques
current designers at work

the integral nature of craft, design and technology
some of Nature's design solutions

The first programme is intended for teachers only and will suggest and provide material for discussion on ways in which the series can be used with pupils. It is envisaged that schools will wish to record the series to provide themselves with a valuable teaching resource that develops through the five years of the series.

The series will be supported by a textbook and teachers' notes; At the end of the Summer term 1982 two programmes for teachers will introduce the subject and explain the approach adopted in the series. Two preliminary programmes for teachers have already been transmitted in March in the Thames area and they offered an encouraging foretaste of a fluent and stimulating series which should be of the greatest value to schools with items ranging from the work of Horsforth School and Parham (both already featured in *Studies in Design Education Craft and Technology*) and the development of the Rolls Royce jet engine. The programmes are produced by Michael Feldman of Thames Television, advised by Andrew Breckon (Educational Inspector CDT Lincolnshire; formerly Head of Design and Technology, East Barnet School) and David Prest (Senior Lecturer, Middlesex Polytechnic; formerly Head of Design Faculty, the School of St. David and St. Katherine, Haringey). Transmission times in the Autumn term are Monday, 11.05 – 11.20 and Friday, 11.44 – 11.59.

Thames Television is also running another relevant series. The Search for Solutions in Science and Technology in conjunction with Phillips Petroleum Company, UK Limited. This is a series of nine films on Investigation, Evidence, Trial and Error, Patterns, Context, Modelling, Prediction, Adaptation and Theory. Transmission times in the Summer term are Thursday, 10.38 – 10.58.

Developments are also taking place at the BBC. Here the emphasis is on junior work in Craft Design and Technology. The series of four programmes to be transmitted in Summer 1982 are:

1. *Downhill*
Designing a vehicle which rolls down a hill.
Reducing friction. Planning.
2. *Building a Vehicle*
Choosing materials. Building the downhill vehicle and testing it. Brakes and levers.
3. *Uphill*
Power sources. Building a powered vehicle which goes uphill.
4. *Wheels and Gears*
Wheels, pulleys, gears on bicycles and elsewhere.

From planning – to making. Essential craft skills are easily developed by young pupils.

Far right:
Assembling a vehicle.



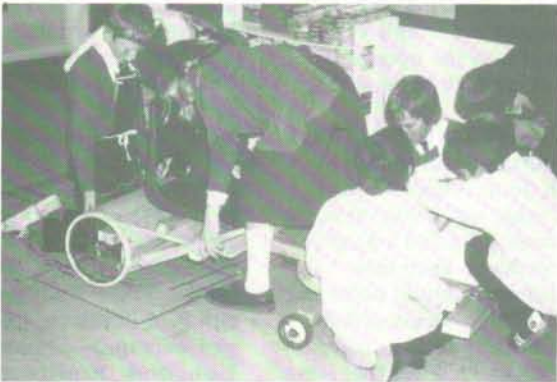
The styling department.
Not bad for ten year olds!



Planning the layout of
a go-kart.



A go-kart project team
at work.



Tabulating information
on gear ratios.



Building a wheeled toy.

In each the approach is practical rather than scientific. Each programme is accompanied by a programme for teachers.

For 1982-83 a fifth programme will be added:

5. *The Lie of the Land*

Removing the hill. All-purpose vehicles.

Transmission times are:

Pupils' programmes

Monday 9.35 – 9.55 BBC-1 Fortnightly

Repeated in alternative weeks

Tuesday 2.15 – 2.35 BBC-1

Prog 1 26 April, 4 May

Prog 2 10 May, 18 May

Prog 3 24 May, 8 June

Prog 4 14 June (BBC-1), 22 June (BBC-2)

Teachers' programmes

Tuesday 9.00 – 9.20 BBC-2 Fortnightly

Repeated same day Tuesday 12.05 – 12.25 BBC-1

Prog 1 20 April

Prog 2 4 May

Prog 3 18 May

Prog 4 8 June

The producer of all programmes is David Toft of the BBC, the Consultant is David Shaw, Educational Adviser of Coventry Local Education Authority. An attractive booklet with worksheets is already available from the BBC.

Together these series will greatly complement the work of Craft Design and Technology teachers in primary and secondary schools throughout Britain. Their initial effect will be substantial, the ultimate availability of the complete series will constitute a major increment in the resources for teaching the subject in very many schools.

Maths by the metre!

*Studying an old
'Penny-Farthing'.*

