

Core Skills Analysis

History

- The student gained a deeper understanding of WW1 trench warfare, acknowledging both the strategic importance and the harsh living conditions faced by soldiers.
- Creating a model allowed the student to visualize the layout of trenches and comprehended how geography influenced military strategies.
- The hands-on experience of building the trench model improved the student's grasp of historical timelines and events, creating a more tangible connection to history.
- This activity encouraged the student to explore the social context of WW1, including the lives of soldiers and civilian experiences during the war.

Art and Design

- The project fostered creativity as the student selected methods and materials to effectively represent a historical trench.
- Working with various materials, such as cards, helped enhance the student's fine motor skills and spatial awareness.
- The aesthetic decisions made during the modeling process reinforced artistic skills, including the use of color, texture, and proportion.
- The student learned to visualize concepts and translate them into a physical form, an essential skill in the field of design.

Science

- The activity involved basic principles of engineering and physics, particularly how to create stable structures with limited materials.
- The student conducted experiments with the materials to see how weight distribution and balance affect the trench model's sturdiness.
- Understanding the properties of the materials used (like cardboard's rigidity) led to discussions about material science.
- The activity allowed for exploration of environmental science through the lens of trench construction, including its ecological impact during the war.

Tips

To enhance learning, consider encouraging the student to research more about specific battles that took place in trenches, which can lead to further discussions about tactics used. Involving them in interactive exhibits or documentaries on WW1 could provide a more immersive experience. Additionally, integrating math concepts by measuring and scaling the model would reinforce their understanding of dimensional design. Exploring the materials' properties and how visible damage might affect construction could deepen their scientific comprehension.

Book Recommendations

- [The First World War](#) by John Keegan: A comprehensive overview of WW1, its battles, and the intricate details of trench warfare, ideal for young historians.
- [Trench Life: The First World War](#) by David M. Jones: This book explores the everyday life of soldiers in trenches, providing context and vivid imagery for the model-making activity.
- [The Great War: A Combat History of the First World War](#) by Julian Evans: An engaging narrative that follows the events of WW1, particularly focusing on the evolution of trench warfare over the years.

Learning Standards

- History: Subject content covered under the National Curriculum for History includes understanding of events beyond living memory (KS2).
- Art and Design: The curriculum encourages the development of creativity through practical skills and design aspects (KS1/KS2).
- Science: The curriculum aims for students to explore materials and their properties, as outlined in the Design Technology section (KS2).