

Dear Year 6 parents/guardians,

This half term in Year 6, our DT topic is based on textiles and we will be making our own puppets. By the end of the term your child should be able to: choose different materials for different purposes, be able to name and use a range of stitches and evaluate their work against their own criteria. Please help your child with their learning by going through this fact sheet with them. Many thanks, Year 6 teachers.

Key vocabulary

Hem—Folding back and stitching down the edge of the material.

Seam—The line where two pieces of fabric are joined together with stitching.

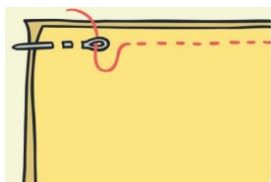
Stitch—A loop of thread to join pieces of fabric.

Thread (noun) -A long, thin strand of cotton, nylon or other fibres.

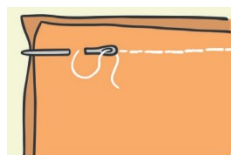
Thread (verb) - To pass a piece of thread (noun) through the hole in the end of the needle.

Different types of stitches

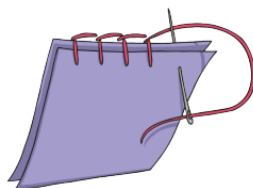
Running Stitch—A simple line of evenly-spaced stitches that go straight along the fabric without overlapping.



Back Stitch - Overlapping stitches.



Blanket Stitch—A line of stitching that hooks over the edge of material.



Cross Stitch - A stitch that forms the shape of a cross.



Natural Fibre Products Traditional fibres from plants and animals.

Wool: Fibres from sheep's wool are spun into yarn and can be woven and knitted. The fibres can also be spun into finer yarn which is turned into cloth. Absorbent, soft or coarse handle, not durable.

Used in yarn form in knitwear, scarves, gloves, bags, dresses and suits.

Silk: Natural fibre from silkworms, woven into fine fabric, which has a high sheen or lustre. Cool to wear.

Used in high-class clothing and home furnishings in Satin form.

Cotton: Thread is spun from fibres from the cotton plant. Used widely due to its good durability and soft handle. Can be machine washed, but requires ironing as creases easily. Highly-absorbent.

Used in canvas, muslin, calico and denim, clothing, home furnishings

Leather: Made from animal skins, leather is not strictly a fabric. Comfortable in both hot and cold conditions. Untreated, leather is absorbent but can be treated with a range of finishes to improve its effectiveness and durability. Tough and elastic.

Used in clothing, car upholstery, home furnishings.

Manmade Fibre Products (synthetic) Modern fibres manufactured using polymers.

Nylon: Strong and durable manmade polymer fibre. Has a wide range of applications, as a clothing fabric and in other uses where durability is important. Warm to wear, non-absorbent and good drape. Can be made with soft or coarse handle.

Used in wide range of clothing in pure and blended form. Waterproof coats, tents.

Polyester: Very durable polymer fibre, non-absorbent and cool to wear. Often blended with cotton to produce low cost, breathable fabrics and used widely in place of pure cotton.

Used in clothing and home furnishings, industrial polyester used for ropes, seat-belts.

Lycra: A 20th century 'wonder material', Lycra is commonly found in sportswear due to its breathable and elastic qualities. Excellent shape retention. When blended with natural fibres, clothing with the feel of natural fibre, and the elasticity of Lycra can be achieved.

Used in tight-fitting sports wear, stockings and leggings, blended in denim, woollen clothing.