

PTkau: 12: DDDO PO1: Challenge yourself with PO1

Video Name: Cardboard Bots with Y3 & Y4

Presenters: Lisa Byers

We started the year with an overall theme on 'Change' and I began from a technology perspective. It was really important that the children had a clear way forward and a clear ending point and what happened in the middle was just sheer adventure.

We began with a 'Design a BOT' brief because we were starting with 'change with ourselves'. I didn't limit what the bot's could look like so some looked like robots and some looked like cats and other things. From there they had to choose one thing to change in their bot.

We limited the children with what they could use so cardboard was a readily available cheap resource that we could bring from home and use in lots of different ways, that is the reason why we used cardboard. From the design process they had a brief, specifications, they had to do three concept drawings and then choose one to draw from different angles; do a final design and label what would be on it.

This child chose to make a cat bot, this is a year 4 child, a girl. In her bot she chose her one change to be to record and use a speaker that played the sound of a cat when you pushed the button. This is the device that we used, it comes all in one kit. It has a speaker which is the output and it has a microphone that you record the sound. One of these is the record button and one is the play button. If you have a look at the circuitry it's really great for teachers as it comes with this clear tab that keeps the battery from going flat and it has all the circuitry already in there for you. You can buy this as a complete unit. All you need to do is pull that out (clear tab is removed). This is one we prepared earlier (button is pushed and sound of cat meow is played). This would be placed in this child's bot and she could push the button and it would make that output sound of a meow.