

**Make Your Own  
Wiggle Side Chair  
Lesson Plan – Key Stages 2 & 3**

# Skills that you'll use

- You will learn more about materials and their properties
- You will learn about key designs and their designers



## Materials needed

- Pencil or pen
- Some paper
- Scissors
- Cardboard
- Glue stick or double sided sticky tape



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# Activity plan

## Introduction (5mins)

In the early 1970s Frank Gehry was a young architect with an adventurous approach to design. As an architect, Frank would often have to create models of his ideas for buildings from cardboard. Soon, his love for this everyday material gave him a great idea: what if he used it to make furniture from? Using his craft knife and some cardboard in his studio, Frank made his first piece of cardboard furniture.

Soon Frank Gehry was making everything from cardboard, from sofas and desks to elegant chairs with weird and wonderful shapes. The Wiggle Side chair remains his most famous cardboard creation.

Watch the video about the Wiggle Chair and learn more about this weird, unconventional design.



# Activity plan

## **Discuss** **(5-10mins)**

- What did you think about the idea of having all of your furniture made from cardboard?
- What problems do you think cardboard would cause if you made furniture from it?
- What else around your home could you make from cardboard?

## **Research** **(10 mins)**

- Have a look at the chairs around your home.
- Find three examples of different types of chair.
- What type of use have they got? Maybe they are just used for relaxing on or maybe you use it at a table.
- Ask the people in your home what their favourite chair is and what they like about it.



# Activity plan

## Activity (20 mins)

Find some cardboard around your house. Preferably this would be corrugated cardboard. That's the stuff with the wiggly bits in the middle. This can be a delivery box, a take-away box or even some packaging. Make sure that no one is using it before you take it. Use the template on the next slide and place a piece of paper on top to trace the shape. You may need to rescale it slightly.

### Top tip

- Don't make it too big. Around the height of a tea mug is big enough.

Once you've traced the template, cut the traced silhouette of the Wiggle Chair out.

Now place this on a piece of cardboard and carefully draw around the edges.

Do this several times. You may need to do this up to 10 or more times.

Cut out the cardboard shapes and stick them together like a big sandwich with lots of layers.

Now that you've made your very own Wiggle Side Chair share it with the Design Museum on social media with **#DesignFromHome**.



