

Mood board for buildings in a peaceful world



Time needed: 30-40 minutes

Suggested resources:

paper or card (A4 or larger); tape / glue; pencils

paint colour charts

old magazines or catalogues to cut pictures from

pictures of signs and symbols that represent peace

textiles, small beads, natural materials like leaves or shells

Idea:

Imagine you are rebuilding your neighbourhood, just like St Paul's church was rebuilt after World War Two. Many of the old buildings in Bow Common were dark and cold. They were quite small, with not much space. After the war, people wanted their buildings to look new and bright. They wanted to rebuild their lives in a modern and peaceful world.

Think about the world you want to live in. What kind of buildings would help you to look to the future? What kind of building would feel safe and bring people together? How would you decorate a building to make it feel new and interesting? What would you have inside the building? What materials would you use? What colours would you use?

Create a mood board to record all your ideas.

Step 1

Take your blank piece of paper or card. This will be your mood board.

Step 2

Decide what type of building you want to design.

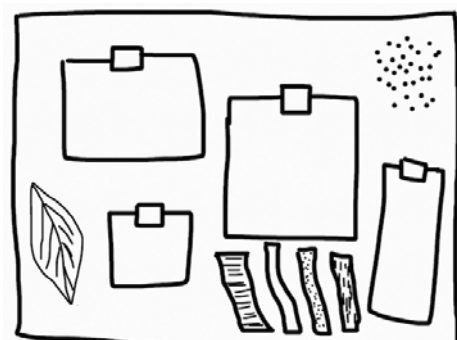
What activities will happen in the building and who will be using it? You can write key words on your mood board.

Step 3

Cut out pictures, colours, and textiles that show how you would design your building and stick them on your mood board. Don't forget to write notes or labels to explain why you've chosen each thing.

Extra Step

You can create a digital mood board, using a blank Word document and collecting, copying, and pasting images from the internet or clip art.



Further reading and things to think about

People who design buildings are called architects. When we talk about architecture, we mean all these things that are part of the design and making of a building. Designers and architects often use a mood board when they are trying out their first ideas for a new building.

Architects design buildings by thinking about what they will be used for and who will use them. For example, in a school, they would design lots of classrooms with enough toilets for all the children and the toilets would be the right size for children. Have you ever been into bathrooms where the sinks were too high and you couldn't reach the hand dryers?

Architects also use space, light and colour to make buildings feel like nice places to be. Think about a room you like. Why do you like it? Were the colours bright and cheerful? And what about a room you didn't like; what didn't you like about it?

The first St Paul's church at Bow Common was built in 1858. It had a tall tower and colourful stained glass windows. Inside there were lots

of pillars and arches and rows of seats. During World War II (1939-45) the church was destroyed by a bomb. Many buildings in the neighbourhood - houses, shops, and factories - were also destroyed. Some older people living in Bow Common today still remember the war and the damage done to their homes.

Work to build a new church started in 1958. The new church was designed to reflect the ideas of the post-war world; it was a fresh start after six long years of fighting.

In a Christian church, the altar is a table where bread and wine is blessed and shared.

The altar is in the centre of St Paul's. It is lit from the glass lantern in the roof and the corona (the 'crown' or ring) of candles. This is a sign of the church's focus on community and the relationships between the priest and the people, with God at the centre.

Unlike the decorative style of older churches, the style of St Paul's church is quite simple, plain and unadorned. But the design makes use of light, geometric shapes, and colour to make people feel welcome and comfortable.

Learning objectives

- Understand that the Bow Common area has changed significantly in living memory.
- Understand that many buildings were destroyed in Bow Common during World War II and people are still alive who remember the bombing raids.
- Understand how building designs reflect their everyday use and peoples' hopes for the future.

Curriculum links

- History KS1: Changes in living memory; developing an awareness of the past, changes and the passing of time.
- Art KS1: Using a range of materials creatively to design products; producing creative work, exploring and recording their ideas.