

Redesign Your Kitchenware

Lesson Plan – Key Stages 3-5

Skills that you'll use

- You will learn about key designs and key designers.



Materials needed

- Pencil or pen
- Some paper
- Colouring pens or pencils (optional)



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Activity plan

Introduction (5mins)

In 1989 French designer Philippe Starck designed the Hot Bertaa kettle for Alessi. The kettle was very different to the kettle that you may find in your kitchen, there was no lid to pour the water in through, no handle to lift the kettle up with and no way of plugging the kettle in. Despite all of this, the Hot Bertaa was a sensation. It got people talking about how weird and wonderful it was.

Eventually, Alessi stopped making the Hot Bertaa kettle because of a small part of the kettle that didn't always work. This meant that when people tried to pour hot water into a cup after it had boiled, the water didn't always come out.

Is this a good design or not?

Watch the Design Museum's film about the Hot Bertaa kettle.

What do you think?



Activity plan

Discuss (5-10mins)

- Do you like the look of the Hot Bertaa kettle?
- What does it remind you of?
- Is it more exciting than the kettle in your kitchen?
- Do you think that the Hot Bertaa was a good design?
- Give your reasons why you think that the design was either good or bad.

Research (10 mins)

- Go online (you may need an adult to help) and look at some of Philippe Starck's designs.
- Can you find out how many and which designs he did for Alessi?



Activity plan

Activity (30 mins)

Ask an adult for help to go in to your kitchen and find what you think is the most boring piece of kitchenware (tea pot, blender, microwave etc.). Take a photo on a device if you're able to. This will serve you as a reminder of what the thing you chose looks like.

Using a pen or pencil and a piece of paper, draw a Philippe Starck version of your chosen object. Make it eye catching, weird and wonderful. You may want to combine a few functions, like the way that Philippe Starck used the handle to also fill up the Hot Bertaa.

If you have colouring pens or pencils then add a little colour to your Philippe Starck style kitchen object design. Label your design to show what materials are made from and show any special functions. Designers call these labels 'annotations'.

Now that you've completed your design why not share it with the Design Museum on social media using **#DesignFromHome?**



Optional task

Extra (ongoing)

Philippe Starck designed quite a few things around the house, from TVs to toilet brushes. Pick an object from anywhere in your house to redesign in the style of Philippe Starck.

Share your design with the Design Museum on social media with **#DesignFromHome**.

