Arranging the furniture



The purpose of this activity is to redesign your classroom.

Information sheet

There are many possible arrangements, but some may not work very well. It would be too difficult to try them all by moving the furniture. The best way to decide on a good arrangement is to try things out on a plan.

You will need to draw the room to scale and cut out scaled furniture. You can then try different ways of arranging things. When you find one you like, glue everything into position.

Think about...

How will you measure the furniture? What measurements will you need? What scale will you use?

Try this ...

- 1 Measure the length and width of your table or desk.
- 2 Sit on your chair at a comfortable distance from the table. Keeping the chair in this position, measure the distance of the back of the chair from the table.
- 3 Make a list of all the furniture in the room. Include the measurements you have made and the dimensions of all the other furniture.
- **4** Draw the plan of each piece of furniture, omitting the chairs, on graph or squared paper. Use a scale of ...
- 5 Cut out your furniture shapes.
- **6** Use your shapes and the plan of the room to try out different arrangements.

You could try different arrangements for different purposes, such as a formal class, group work, and class discussion.

Remember that you will need to allow room for the chairs and for people to move about the room.

- 7 Choose the arrangement you like best. Draw it to scale on graph (or squared) paper.
- **8** Write a brief summary saying why you like this arrangement. Include what it would be suitable for, with reasons.

At the end of the activity

What items did you measure?

Why is it important to use the same scale for the furniture as for the plan?

How did you use the scale to work out the size to cut out?

Why did you like the arrangement you chose?