

How to use this guide

Arts in Junior Cycle encourages active engagement when using short films in the classroom. The questions and activities below are a small sample of ways that this film featuring Alan Meredith could be incorporated into the lessons. Teachers will need to consider the unique context and both age and stage of their students when planning how best to use the film and adapt this resource accordingly.



Key Skills focus: Being Creative | Communicating | Managing Information & Thinking

Before Viewing

Consider prior knowledge in anticipation of viewing

- When working on projects, do you like to have everything accurately planned out in advance? Why/why not?
- When working on a project, how do you gather your thoughts and ideas?
- Is there a particular craft or process that you are passionate about? How does it make you feel?

While Viewing

Support active viewing. On second and subsequent viewing, pausing may be used for specific focus

- Alan speaks about the joy he finds in working out how to make something and then making it. What do you enjoy working out and making?
- Studying architecture helped Alan to 'open up his horizons and see new things' in design. What kind of areas/topics that you study help you to see new things / open up horizons?
- A big part of Alan's process is experimenting and trying out processes. Do you have a similar experience? What way do you like to figure things out?

After Viewing

Follow up on key ideas and synthesize information learned

- Alan and his team find that drawings and sketches are essential throughout design and realisation. How do you like to communicate your ideas?
- Experimenting is central to how Alan works. How do you explore in your work? Could you find new ways to experiment?
- Alan mentions steam-bending as something that makes his studio unique. Are there things that are unique about some of the projects/processes you engage in? What are they - take time to identify them.



Passion for Design and Making

Alan Meredith
Furniture Designer

Did you use this guide or other *Passion for Design & Making* short films in your classroom? If so, tag @JuniorCycleArts or @DCCIreland on social media or email us at info@jct.ie