

WHAT IS DESIGN THINKING & HOW DOES IT HELP KIDS

We've all done it. Have you ever sat down to consider what takes priority for a day's work? Rarely do we consider the steps that lead us to beginning and finishing a task or project.

Design Thinking is the name, or methodology, given to the steps we use everyday to plan and solve problems. While adults use these problem solving skills professionally, most kids and youth are still in the formative stages of this skill development.

The process of Design Thinking was brought to the mainstream by IDEO and Stanford's d.school (founded by David Kelley). It helps people think creatively to solve problems and be more imaginative for designing almost anything! We know kids are imaginative, but this process helps funnel that imagination to create a more fluid and concise product or outcome. This helps them be more efficient and the quality of their work (or thinking) improves.

The best part is this method has life long effects. The younger the child, the better! This Design Thinking method is their "thinking-toolkit". Kids can use it to solve almost any problem and is a fundamental piece of the learn by making or maker-centric pedagogy which is the foundation of Brilliant Labs teachings.

COOKBOOK DESIGN FOR CLIMATE ACTION

DESIGN THINKING PROCESS GUIDING QUESTIONS

CALL TO MAKE

Have you ever looked at a cookbook and thought the food looked too good to be true? Talk to someone you know about a recipe they have used for a long time. How could you recreate this recipe using mostly local ingredients? How does buying locally produced food help the Earth? What other benefits does this have for your community?

EMPATHIZE

Interview someone you know that enjoys cooking. Find out about their process, and where they get their recipes. Can they share a recipe with you? What did you notice about the recipes you received from your interview? How does buying locally produced food help the Earth? What other benefits does this have for your community? Who is the audience for your cookbook?

DEFINE

Display your recipe and food creation in a cookbook with today's #DigitalSkills activity using Google Slides. Which recipe did you choose? How can you take pictures of food that make it look delicious? Which food grows locally in your area? What kind of recipes do these foods work well in? How will you layout your cookbook page so that it both looks great, and has all the information that someone needs to recreate your recipe? How will you stage your photos to make your food look really appealing to your audience?

IDEATE

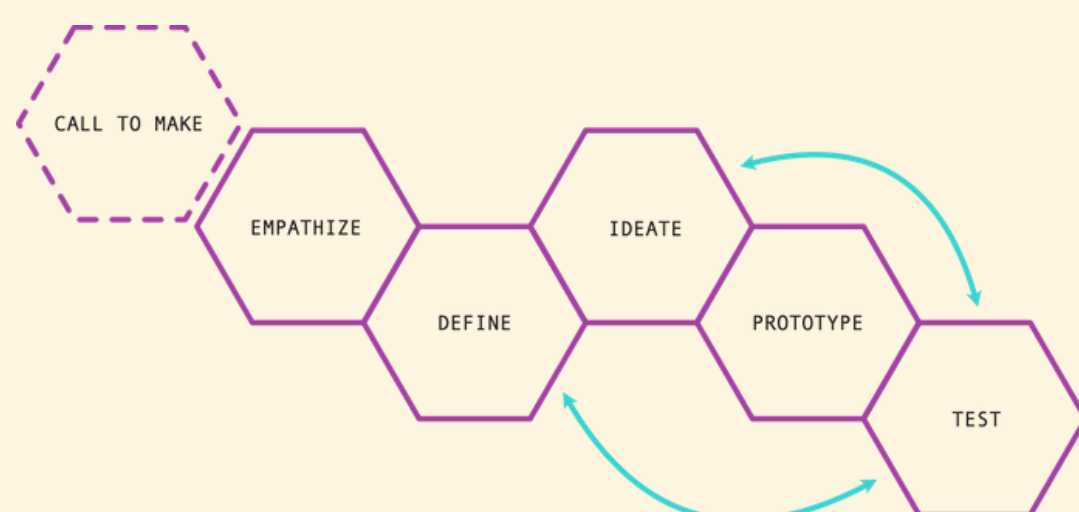
Find some examples of food photography from recipe websites, blogs or cookbooks. What is it about their photographs that make the food look great? Draw some sketches for the layout of your cookbook page. Where will you put the important information like the title, ingredients, procedures, and photos? How will you explain each step to make sure it's easy to understand? What font will be a good choice for your design? What features will you include that make it appealing to your specific audience?

PROTOTYPE

Use your recipe and photographs to create a layout in Google Slides, another tool that you're comfortable with, or even on paper! What design features will you include so that your audience will want to cook your recipes?

TEST

Share your cookbook design with others. Did they find it easy to follow? Ask for feedback on your design? Did the photos make the recipe look appealing? What would you change about the design? Would this be a recipe you would make again?



"Deep empathy for people makes our observations powerful sources of inspiration."
—David Kelley