

## LEARNING ACTIVITIES & SUCCESS CRITERIA

*I can explain and summarise the main events in the history of Harris Tweed.*

*I can describe the place of Harris Tweed in the economy of present day Lewis and Harris.*

*I can meet a design challenge using Harris Tweed.*

- Visit a Harris Tweed weaver and find out about their loom and how they weave the tweed.
- Visit a Harris Tweed mill and find out about the relationship between the mill and the weavers.
- Visit one of the Comann Eachdraidh exhibitions to see a wooden loom.
- Compare and contrast the three types of loom used over the last century – wooden loom, hattersley loom and double width loom.
- Look at samples of tweed from different historical periods and write a sentence to describe each one, using adjectives.
- Find out about the part played by Lady Dunmore in the promotion of Harris Tweed by reading the history section of selected websites.
- Write an imaginary letter from Lady Dunmore to one of her wealthy friends, trying to persuade them to buy Harris Tweed.
- Listen to a talk from the Harris Tweed Authority on the introduction of the Harris Tweed Orb trademark in 1909 and the acts of parliament to protect the cloth
- Write out the legal definition of Harris Tweed found in the Harris Tweed Act, then design your own trademark to go with it.
- Produce your own leaflet marketing Harris Tweed to the modern world, describing ways in which it could be used, and listing the websites of the Harris Tweed mills.
- Design a fashion item using Harris Tweed, then make a promotional poster advertising it to the wider world.

## QUESTIONS TO CHECK HIGHER ORDER THINKING SKILLS

Why were the islands particularly suited to weaving warm woolen garments?

Why do you think the hattersley loom was so popular when it was introduced in the 1930s?

Why was it necessary to design a double width loom for the 21st century?

Why did the tweed produced alter during the last hundred years?

What is the point of having a trademark?

Why do you think an orb and maltese cross were chosen for the trademark?

What are the benefits of having an act of parliament to protect your product?

What is your own opinion of Harris Tweed as a fashion item?

## EXPERIENCES & OUTCOMES

*I can investigate how an everyday product has changed over time to gain an awareness of the link between scientific and technological developments.*

**TCH 2-01b**

*Through discovery and imagination, I can develop and use problem-solving strategies to meet design challenges with a food or textile focus.*

**TCH 1-11a / TCH 2-11a**

*Having evaluated my work, I can adapt and improve, where appropriate, through trial and error or by using feedback.*

**TCH 2-11b**

*Throughout my learning, I experiment with the use of colour to develop an awareness of the effects and impacts it can have.*

**TCH 2-15b**

## LINKS/RESOURCES

<http://www.e-storas.com/primary.aspx/e-storas-resource.aspx?id=1441>

<http://www.harristweed.org/>

<http://www.harristweedandknitwear.co.uk/>

[www.harristweedhebrides.com](http://www.harristweedhebrides.com)

<http://thecarlowaymill.com/index.html>

<http://www.harristweedandknitwear.co.uk/the-history-of-making-harris-tweed/>

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Q\\_y5LrjTNJw](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Q_y5LrjTNJw)

*A Harris Way of Life  
Gisela Vogler*

*The Islanders and the Orb  
Janet Hunter*

