

TREEHOUSE DESIGN

GRADE: K-2

TIME: 20-25 minutes

Inspired by nature, Frank Lloyd Wright worked to make his designs a part of the natural landscape as much as possible. In this lesson, participants are introduced to Wright's concept of Organic Architecture and challenged to design a house located high up in a tree's branches.

INTEGRATED SUBJECTS: Visual Art & Science

MATERIALS & RESOURCES

Drawing paper
Pencils
Color pencils, markers, or crayons
Tree drawing (at end of lesson plan)
Examples of Frank Lloyd Wright's designs

OBJECTIVES

1. Introduce Frank Lloyd Wright, the job of an architect, and the concept of Organic Architecture.
2. Challenge creative and critical thinking.
3. Explore the influence of nature on man-made structures.

ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS

1. How did nature inspire Frank Lloyd Wright's designs?
2. How can different types of lines communicate different meaning?
3. Can a design problem have more than one solution?

LESSON PROCEDURE

- Introduce Frank Lloyd Wright as an important American architect and designer. Briefly share some examples of his work and explain the importance and presence of nature in his designs. <https://www.teachingbydesign.org/multimedia/>
- Lead a brief discussion about the role of a architect and designer.
- **Present participants with the design challenge:** Design a house that will sit inside the tree's branches without cutting down or changing any part of the tree.
- **After participants have had time to work on their designs, provide time for them to share and see other solutions to the design problem.**

