

Animal Architecture: 'Nestworx'

Ben Johnson

Design and Visual Communication
(DVC).

Year 9 & 10



Research



This is the Birdscape design. The
....



Hanging gardens.....

Source of pictures:

[http://www.expandedenvironment.org/
animal-architecture-awards-announced/](http://www.expandedenvironment.org/animal-architecture-awards-announced/)

Bird problem: Thousands of birds are killed every year by flying into tall objects like high rise buildings, large glass panes, wind turbines, etc.

- The question is how can you address this problem?
- Can you identify a specific problem?
- Think about a design idea that could assist birds to be safely urbanized just like humans are urbanized every year.

Bird Problem: Large amount of bird poo in the cities

- How can we solve this?
- Could we build structures, etc. to alleviate this problem?
- Research and think about problems that could be solved, or how can we improve the environment or design some components to benefit the birds.
- How can we eliminate the poo?
- Could we design a building, or add to an existing building new ideas to enhance the lives of birds in the urban environment?

Design Brief: 'Nestworx'

Situation: You are investigating the fact that humans are urbanizing (flock to cities) and you discover that not much is being done to accommodate birds and bird life in the cities. You have an idea on how you could make a contribution to allow the bird life to thrive. Obviously you can only choose a specific area of interest or a specific bird species. Research and think about a solution- something that could make a difference for a specific bird or situation.

Brief: Design a solution for a specific bird species in the city to enhance/improve the current situation for that specific species. The idea is to research or to think about problems birds in your neighbourhood are experiencing. How could you make a difference (design idea) for the birds, the environment and the humans in the area.

Specifications:

- Choose any bird species
- Choose any type of solution (design idea)
- Size: Any size of the design is fine
- Consider the type of materials to be used. Natural materials will be best!
- Consider the environment. How could this idea fit naturally, without impacting negatively on the environment, into the surroundings and the immediate environment.
- Annotate your illustrations as far as possible with annotations. Annotations are text explaining things, in other words tell the story in your own words with sketches/drawings, etc.

Marking schedule: Animal Architecture, Brief-birdhouse, birdfeeder, etc. Year 9 & 10 DVC

Research= 10 point

Presentation= 10 points

Design work on Sketch-up =10 points

Creativity=10

In-depth understanding of the brief=10

Total of 50 points

About 'Nestworx'

2010 saw us tip the balance of the global urban habitation — More than 50% of the human population now lives in an Urban Environment. Clearly, we need to reconcile our attitudes and opinions about the natural world – the forest as a territory of unspeakable dangers and dark secrets – and encourage crypto forests to break through the cracks in the paving, bringing with them wildlife, insects and a certain degree of disorder that would otherwise be swept away. The results were a series of individual 'assisted ready-mades' – immanently implementable 'Nestworx' whose ambition was to tip the balance of possibilities available to the urban bird population: providing both shelter and habitat.



Picture on the right: The picture shows a solution to increase the protection of birds and to provide sheltered breeding environments for the young ones. It is simple but effective. Consider the different seasons. The tree trunk is hollowed out and sealed, then large holes are drilled as 'doors' to the 'birdhouse'. Think about the birds, if most residents of cities are environmentally switched on we all could make a difference collaboratively.

Bird-scraper



1. Birds Die From Crashing Into Skyscrapers Windows – Over 90,000 birds die every year by crashing into skyscrapers because lights inside the buildings attract birds flying right onto their windows.

2. NYC Is The Only Major US City Without A Wildlife Rehabilitation Center – 4,000 calls from people seeking help for distressed wildlife each year and emergency care and rehabilitation to over thousands of birds; most of them were injured from crashing into the dense “concrete jungle”, New York City.

The skyscraper contains a unique ecological system that produces oxygen and sustains itself. Since the building is located in the middle of the lake, all birds feces will drop down into the lake, thus feces will turn into algae. All algae have photosynthetic machinery ultimately derived from the Cyanobacteria, and so produce oxygen as a by-product of photosynthesis. This is the idea; more birds, they will drop more feces, and there are more algae. If there are more algae, they produce more oxygen.

This Bird Building on the left is an ingenious solution to solve bird problems. Notice how the bird faeces (droppings) will drop into the lake. It will then turn into algae(plants) . Photosynthesis is the natural process where plants convert carbon dioxide into oxygen. It means the bird dropping are making a contribution towards the production of oxygen for the humans in the area.

Can you think of any ideas like this to solve bird problems? You will have to start with a Google search on “Bird Problems”. Select a problem and work on a design for it.

Honorable Mentions to:
Pigeon Racing Headquarters
Carla Novak

Pigeon Racing Headquarters

Pigeon racing is an age old sport.



The Pigeon Racing Headquarters is a design for the conversion of a Victorian Terrace in Dover into a Racing Pigeon Clubhouse. The hope is for the building to stimulate awareness and interest in pigeon racing as well as undoing the ever-increasingly negative reputation of the pigeon amongst the British public.

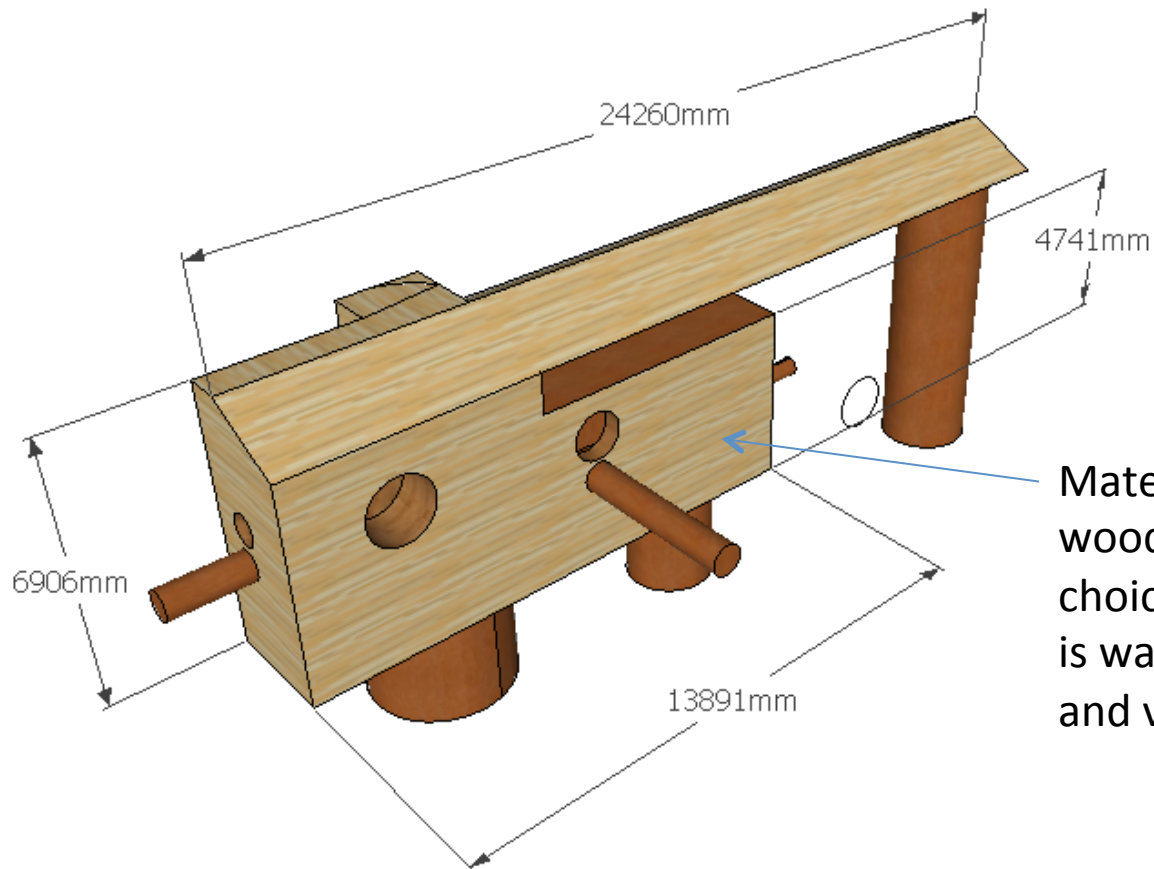
The British Pigeon has a much-forgotten heroic association with Dover as they acted on behalf of the British Army during World War I and II, defending Britain's front line along the White Cliffs of Dover. Buckland Pigeon Racing Club in Dover is in need of new facilities for a clubhouse and is a prime opportunity to start a pigeon revolution for the rest of the country to follow.

Go to this link and explore the designs which was entered for the competition

Link to website:

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My design on Sketch-up



Materials: Cedar wood is a good choice because it is water resistant and very organic.