

# Candidate 3 evidence



## National 5 Fashion and Textile Technology Assignment Candidate workbook

Use this workbook to present your assignment. The wording in this template should not be altered in any way.

There are spaces for your responses for each part of the assignment. You can complete the workbook by hand or electronically. You can add links, extra space or extra pages if needed.

Develop a fashion/textile learning item suitable for a preschool child

Please tick (✓) the following checklist when you have completed each of the stages in your assignment to ensure you have submitted all the relevant information.

Stage	Instruction	Tick (✓)
1a	Identify two key themes	
1b	Carry out three investigations	
1c	Present the solution, identify and explain seven features	
2a	Test carried out	
2b	Relevant information gathered	
2c	Evaluation comments	

Scottish Candidate Number

### 1b Investigations (15 marks – each investigation is worth 5 marks)

Carry out three investigations into the key themes, using at least two different investigative techniques.

Your investigations should include research into each of the following, in relation to your chosen brief:

- ◆ textile technologies
- ◆ consumer needs/choices
- ◆ fashion/textile trends

Your evidence for each investigation must include:

- ◆ details of the research technique and source(s) used (1 mark)
- ◆ the results of your investigations
- ◆ the main points from your research (4 marks)

Complete the table below.

	Investigations Aim What information will you collect?	Investigations Technique How will you collect the information?	Investigations Source Where will you find the information?
1	What is the best kind of fabric learning item for a preschool child	Internet search	Amazon Argos Mama's & Papa's Smyth's Toy Superstores
2	What aspects are suitable/important for the child's learning item	Questionnaire	20 parents of young children
3	Suitable fabrics and techniques for making the item	Interview	My Fashion & Textiles teacher

You must produce the results of your investigations shown above.


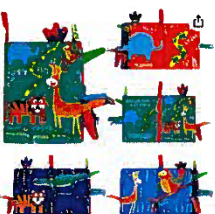


You can present the evidence from your investigations in a variety of ways.

Present your investigation evidence below – you can attach additional pages if needed

### **INVESTIGATION 1**

**RESEARCH METHOD:** Internet research

**AIM:** To find what is the most popular fabric learning item for a pre-school age, including information about certain features

 <p><a href="https://www.amazon.co.uk/fabric-books">https://www.amazon.co.uk/fabric-books</a> Fabric book  <b>Colours:</b> Bright, primary, and secondary  <b>Learning Features:</b> Crinkly fabric inside  <b>Additional features:</b> none  <b>Machine washable:</b> Yes</p>	 <p><a href="https://www.amazon.co.uk/">https://www.amazon.co.uk/</a> Fabric book  <b>Colours:</b> Bright colours, blue, orange, green  <b>Learning features:</b> Interactive tabs, ribbon peek-a-boo flaps, pull tabs  <b>Additional features:</b> Velcro fastening  <b>Machine washable:</b> Yes</p>
 <p><a href="https://www.argos.co.uk/">https://www.argos.co.uk/</a>  <b>Interactive learning toy</b>  <b>Colours:</b> Bright, primary, secondary  <b>Learning features:</b> electrical learning features, glowing heart  <b>Additional features:</b> Embroidered face design, applique patches  <b>Machine washable:</b> No</p>	 <p><a href="https://www.argos.co.uk/">https://www.argos.co.uk/</a>  <b>Fabric learning book</b>  <b>Colours:</b> light pastel colours  <b>Learning features:</b> Interactive flaps and additional plush toys with compartments to go in  <b>Additional features:</b> Velcro fastening, handle  <b>Machine washable:</b> No</p>



<https://www.mamasandpapas.com/>  
**Fabric Learning Book**  
 Colours: light, pastel  
**Learning features:**  
 Interactive flaps and baby safe mirror  
**Additional features:**  
 Connecting ring, Machine washable: Yes



<https://www.mamasandpapas.com/>  
**Play mat**  
 Colours: light, pastel  
**Learning features:**  
 Baby safe mirror, sensory textures  
**Additional features:**  
 None  
**Machine washable:**  
 Yes



<https://www.smythstoys.com>  
**Fabric learning book**  
 Colours: Bright, vibrant blues, reds, yellows, greens  
**Learning features:**  
 Interactive flaps and additional plush toys with compartments to go in, pull tabs,  
**Additional features:**  
 Pop stud fastening  
**Machine washable:** Yes



<https://www.smythstoys.com/>  
**Interactive Learning Toy**  
 Colours: Bright, bold pink, orange etc.  
**Learning features:**  
 Baby safe zipper  
**Additional features:**  
 noise, light up, songs  
**Machine washable:**  
 No

### **CONCLUSION**

- Fabric learning books was the most popular textile educational item suitable for preschoolers. I now know that if I make my item a fabric book it would be popular and a suitable item to make, so I will make my item a fabric learning book, suitable for preschool children.
- Bright colours and pastel colours were both very popular for these fabric books, so I will find out what is most popular during my next investigation.
- Many of these items had additional embellishments and learning features, so I will find out what is most popular and suitable during my second investigation.

- Many items were machine washable, during my second investigation I will find out if this is a crucial factor for parents when buying a fabric learning item suitable for preschoolers.
- Some of the fabric learning books that I looked at had a hook/ring, or handle to hang or attach it. I will find out in my next investigation if this is a useful feature for parents.
- Some of the books I looked at had fastenings, to keep them closed. I will decide in my next investigation what kind of fastening is most suitable and popular for parents.

## **INVESTIGATION 2**

**RESEARCH METHOD:** For my second investigation I will carry out a questionnaire.

**AIM:** This will help me find out key factors about the design of the fabric learning book, such as learning features, embellishments, fastenings, colours etc.

1. What would you like the contents of the fabric learning book to be (select 1)

Animals	8
Simple stories	5
Shapes	2
Numbers/Letters	5

2. What type of filling for the fabric book (select 1)

Crinkly	10
Plush	8
Squeaky	2

3. Would you like a fastening on the fabric learning book? If so, what type of fastening for closing the book (select 1)

Button & buttonhole	6
Velcro	5
Pop studs	8
Ribbon	1
No	0

4. What learning interactive features would you like (select 4)

Zippers	18
Baby safe mirror	16
Flaps	15
Sensory textures	16
Ribbon	6
Pull tabs	9

5. What colour scheme do you prefer

Bright, vibrant	13
Pastel, muted	7

6. Would you like it to be machine washable

Yes	17
No	3

7. Would you like an attachment for hanging, on the fabric learning book?  
If so, what type?

Hook/ring	10
Handle	3
None	7

### CONCLUSION

- From my research I found that **animals** were the most popular content for a fabric learning book, so I will make that the theme of my book.
- From my research I found that a **crinkly filling** was the most popular type of effect for the fabric learning book. I also found that **zippers, sensory textures, a baby safe mirror and flaps** were the most popular interactive learning features for a fabric learning book, so I will incorporate these features in my book design and find out from my next investigation how to incorporate them into my book.
- From my research I found that parents wanted a **fastening and pop studs** were the most popular type of fastening for the fabric learning book I will find out in my next investigation where and how to place this into my book.
- From my research I found that **bright, vibrant colours** were the most popular colour scheme, so I will use that colour scheme on my book.
- From my research I found that parents would prefer the book to be machine washable, so I will find out in my next investigation how include a fabric that is machine washable.
- From my research I have found that parents would like a **hanging hook/ring** on the book, so I will use a plastic hook/ring on the book for accessibility and to ensure it can't get lost easily and I will find out in my next investigation how to add this to the book.

**Investigation 3** - I chose to ask my Fashion & Textiles teacher what construction techniques I should use and how to add learning and interactive features to my learning book.

**1. Through my investigations I have decided to make a fabric learning book for a pre-school child. Can you advise me what type of fabric I should use for the main fabric; it also needs to be machine washable?**

You should use a fabric that is soft, durable, and easy to sew, whilst also being pleasing for small hands. Here are the best fabric choices that are also machine washable:

**Base Fabric:** Cotton is a great choice as it's soft, durable, and easy to sew onto.

Canvas cotton is sturdier than regular cotton but still soft.

Felt is great as it's easy to work with and doesn't fray.

I would also advise making the book sturdier by adding a fusible interfacing or wadding for softer pages.

**2. How can I incorporate a crinkly effect into the book cover?**

Here's how you can add the crinkle texture to the cover and pages:

#### **Crinkly Book Cover**

- Crinkle Layer: You could use something like repurposed cereal bag, thin plastic e.g. a poly pocket, or store-bought crinkle material.
- How to sew it - cut a piece of crinkle material slightly smaller than your fabric cover and layer it between two layers of fabric.
- Sew around the edges, making sure not to sew over the crinkle material too much as this keeps the sound crisp.

#### **Crinkly Shapes for Sensory Play**

- Removable Crinkle Shapes: Attach crinkly features such as fabric stars, hearts, leaves, or clouds with Velcro so children can move them.
- Crinkle Sun or Moon: A soft appliqué sun with crinkle rays for extra sensory fun.

**3. My investigations concluded that a pop stud fastening should be used to close the book, and a hanging hook/ring for attaching. What is the best way to add these to the book?**

**Pop stud fastening** - You could add this at the middle centre opening or you could even use two sets, for added security, one at the top opening and one at the bottom or two near the middle. I would advise using interfacing to reinforce the area for the pop stud is to go. You could also add a decorative element e.g. a fabric flower over the pop stud to make it more decorative and to hide the fasteners.

**Hanging hook/ring** - sew a fabric loop into the spine or corner of the book and put the hook/ring through the loop and stitch securely into the seam or topstitched onto the cover. Or you could insert an eyelet in the top left corner and pass the ring through this.

**4. From my 2nd investigation I found that zippers, sensory textures, a baby safe mirror and flaps were the most popular interactive features for a fabric learning book. How can I add these features to my book?**

Adding interactive features to your fabric book is a great way to engage a child and provide hands-on learning experiences. Here are some interactive elements that can be included and how to add them:

- **Adding zippers** creates a functional element that children can practice zipping up and down. Choose a child-safe plastic zipper, not metal, for safety. You could sew the zipper between two pieces of fabric to create an interactive opening. Use a zipper to mimic clothing, a pocket, a bag, or even an animal's mouth that "opens and closes."
  - Secure the ends with reinforced stitching to prevent fraying.
  - Optionally, attach a fabric tab to the zipper pull for easier gripping.
- **Sensory Textures (Tactile Exploration)**

How to add it: - Use varied fabrics e.g., fleece, velvet, satin, corduroy, felt, faux fur, to create different textures.

  - Apply them to specific elements like grass (fuzzy felt), water (smooth satin), or fur (faux fur).
  - Stitch the textured fabrics securely to the page, using zigzag or satin stitches to prevent fraying.
  - You could add stuffing under some textures for a squishy, 3D feel.
  - Use buttonhole openings where shapes can be threaded through, teaching colour recognition and hand-eye coordination.
- **Baby-Safe Mirror**

Add it to the centre of an animal or the centre of a flower or sun on the page with an animal. You could even place the mirror behind a flap for an interactive "peek-a-boo" effect. make sure you attach it securely with strong stitching

  - **Flaps (Surprise and Discovery)** How to add it: - Cut contrasting fabric like felt into flap shapes (e.g., doors, leaves, animal ears).
  - Attach the flap along one side only, using a tight zigzag or straight stitch.
  - Place hidden surprises underneath (embroidered details, appliqués, crinkle fabric for sound). - Use Velcro to allow flaps to stay closed and be reopened.

#### 5. What would be the best type of seams to use to sew the book together?

You need to ensure that the fabric pages of your textile book are sewn together securely and neatly, as the book needs to be durable and stand up to lots of use. You have a few options depending on your desired look and durability.

Here are some seam types to consider:

1. **French Seam** would give a neat and clean finish. Will make your book a polished look with neatly enclosed edges.
2. **Binding with Bias Tape** is great to give a decorative edge. Will give your book a colourful and sturdy finish.
3. **An overlocked or Zigzag Edge** will be quick and durable. This is a simple, flexible finish that prevents fraying.

To attach the pages together into a book you could use a ribbon or fabric spine by sewing the fabric strip or ribbon along one side of the pages to bind them together.

Alternatively, you could have a sewn spine: Stack all pages and sew a strong line down the left edge to secure them.

#### CONCLUSION -

From my third investigation I have decided that:

- It will be using canvas cotton for the main fabric for my final design, as its sturdy enough to add my interactive features on to, but still soft for small hands, and its machine washable. I'll also add wadding to make the pages sturdier but also soft to touch.
- I will add a crinkle effect to my book cover by cutting a poly pocket slightly smaller than my book cover and sewing two pieces of fabric over it. This will give my book a n interesting texture and be fun sensory play for the preschool child.
- I will put a pop stud fastening at the centre of the side of the book cover and put a decorative feature of a leaf, over it to hide the fastening. This means the pages will be secure and less likely to be damaged
- I will incorporate a plastic hook/ring through a fabric loop at the top left corner of the book. This will ensure the book is conveniently carried and attached to something like a buggy, and less likely to get lost.
- I will use cotton as it is machine washable and use strong seams to protect it such as a French seam on the book cover as it is durable- especially in the wash, and has a neat edge that wouldn't be uncomfortable to hold for a child.
- I will incorporate a plastic zip on the mouth of a felt applique animal, I will use a variety of textures on a jungle and animal setting, such as blue satin for water, faux fur for a panda and plush fabric for clouds. I will use a baby safe mirror to replicate a simple sun and moon with a mirror in the centre, and will use flaps to replicate animals' mouths opening

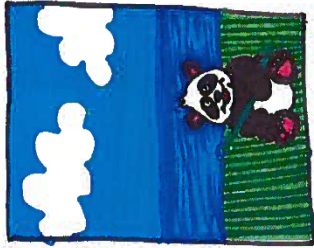
### 1c The solution (18 marks)

Present an appropriate solution (4 marks)

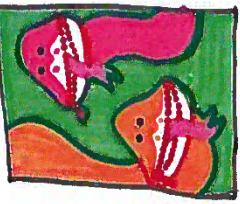
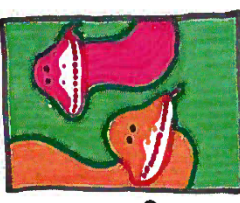
You could present your solution as a description, a labelled diagram, a computer-generated image, samples of fabrics and components to be used with written commentary or a combination of these.

You must provide enough detail to allow your solution to be clearly visualised.


Present your relevant evidence below – you may attach additional pages if needed



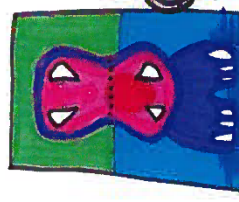
- Clouds made from plush -soft
- Panda made from faux fur
- Grass made from crinkle fabric
- Sea made from satin


- Interactive flap for mouth
- Canvas cotton for applique



- Felt applique strokes
- Baby safe/plastic zip for mouth
- Felt tongue that comes out of mouth.



- Baby safe winter for sun and moon
- Felt applique for animals
- Canvas cotton for sun and moon border



**Justify the features of your solution (14 marks)**

You must identify and explain **seven features** of your solution which refer to the findings from your investigations.

Your identified features must include:

- ◆ at least two design features of the solution
- ◆ at least two properties or characteristics of the textiles
- ◆ at least two construction techniques

Features	Explanation
Design features of the solution (minimum of 2)	<p>In investigation 1 I found that baby safe mirrors were a visual learning features for a child's fabric learning book. In investigation 2 a baby safe mirror was one of the most popularly voted for option, so I decided to incorporate it into a page of my book. From investigation 3 I found that I could incorporate a baby safe mirror by replicating a simple sun and moon and use a baby safe mirror as the centre. This is how I will incorporate the mirror in my final solution as it meets the needs of the target group.</p> <p>I found from investigation 2 that bright, vibrant colours were the most popular choice, so I decided to continue this the whole way through will be using colours such as bright greens, blues, purples and yellows etc. In my final solution as I think this is visually pleasing to a young child and can help them learn colours and meets the choice of the target group.</p>
Properties and characteristics of the textiles (minimum of 2)	<p>In investigation 1 I found that a large majority of the fabric learning books were machine washable. I found if this was an important feature for parents during investigation 2 and since it was, I found how I could ensure my fabric learning book was machine washable in investigation 3. I will therefore use a machine washable cotton for my main fabric for the final design of my book, as cotton is also soft, durable, and easy to sew onto, which make it ideal for a child toy.</p> <p>From investigation 1 I found that interactive flaps were another popular learning feature, and it was chosen as a learning feature in investigation 2. I then found how I could incorporate it in my book in investigation 3. I will therefore I will make an animal's mouth open and close with flaps in my final solution to meet the needs of my target group.</p>

<p>Construction/ finishing techniques (minimum of 2)</p>	<p>In investigation 1 I found that many items had a fastening on it to keep it closed. In investigation 2 I found which fastening would be most suited for the book and found that a pop stud fastening was most popular, so I then found how to include this on my fabric learning book in investigation 3. Therefore, my final solution will be to put it in the centre of the side of my book and add a design feature of a small leaf over it to maintain the fun look.</p> <p>In investigation 3 I found that I should use a French seam on the book cover as it is strong, as well as neat and hidden. This is suitable as my book has a crinkle effect on the cover that would be well protected by the strong seam. It is also going to be used often as well as put in the washing machine often. This means it would stay strong and intact while put in the wash. Therefore, I will use a French seam in my final solution.</p> <p>In investigation 1 I found that a lot of the fabric learning items included a handle or a hook/ring attachment for easy carrying or attaching to something. In investigation 2 I found a hook/ring was preferable as this would be a useful addition and found in investigation 3 that I should add a fabric flap to loop through the hook/ring and sew in at the top left corner of the book. Therefore, this will be added to the final design of my book.</p>
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## Stage 2: testing and evaluation (10 marks)

### 2a Carry out a test (3 marks)

You must produce evidence of carrying out a test to evaluate the suitability of your solution, using **one** investigative technique.

Your test must include:

- ◆ details of the research technique and source(s) used
- ◆ the results of your research
- ◆ the main points from your research that you will use to evaluate your solution

Aim What information will you collect?	Technique How will you collect the information?	Source Where will you find the information?
The effectiveness of the design of the fabric learning book suitable for preschool children.	Survey	10 of the 20 people I surveyed during investigation 2

You can present evidence from your test in a variety of ways, such as a written report, graph, chart, table, notes from an interview, photographs or any other relevant format.

### 2b Gather relevant information on the suitability of the design (4 marks)

Present your evidence below – you can attach additional pages if needed			
Was each of these factors about this fabric learning book effective. If not, why?			
Feature	Yes	No	If not, why?
The fastening	8	2	“Too large” “Got in the way”
The construction of the book	5	5	“The individual pages frayed at the edges” (3) “The fastening came loose” (2)
The learning aspect	7	3	“Should have included names of animals” (3)
The theme and colour palette	10	0	No comment
The interactive features	8	2	“Not enough” “Repetitive”
The fabrics used	9	1	“Takes too long to dry after the wash”
The crinkle effect added to the front cover	6	4	“Can hardly feel it” (3) “Too quiet”

One conclusion I have drawn from my test questionnaire is that I have met the target markets preference when it comes to the theme of animals and overall colour palette of bright and vibrant greens, purples and oranges etc. I know this because 10 out of 10 found it effective, showing I have met the brief of a fabric book suitable for preschool children.

Another conclusion I have drawn from this test questionnaire is that I have met the target markets preference when it comes to the fabric I have used. I know this because 9 out of 10 people found it to be effective. This shows I have met the brief of fabric book.

Another conclusion I have drawn from this test questionnaire is that I have met the target markets preference when it comes to the interactive features included in my book. I know this because 8 out of 10 people found them to be effective. This shows that I have met the brief when it comes to learning book as I have added appropriate interactive learning features. I could however add a larger variety of learning features and maybe more of them.

Another conclusion I have drawn from this test questionnaire is that I have met the target markets preference when it comes to the fastening of the book, by using a pop stud fastening on the middle of the side of the book. I know this because 8 out of 10 people found it to be effective. This shows I have met the brief when it comes to a learning book. I could however have made it slightly smaller as feedback I received found the fastening to be large and to get it the way.

## 2c Evaluation of the final solution (3 marks)

You must evaluate your solution, with reference to the brief you selected and based on findings from your testing.

### Evaluation

One conclusion I have drawn from my test questionnaire is that I have not fully appealed to the target markets preference when it comes to the construction of the fabric learning book. I know this because 5 out of 10 found it effective, showing I have not quite met the brief of a fabric learning book suitable for preschool children, as it is not sturdy enough for young children who will use it a lot. In the future I will ensure my stitching is more secure surrounding each individual page as well as using a different stitch to protect the pages at the edges.

Another conclusion I have drawn from my test questionnaire is that I have not quite met the target markets preference when it comes to the learning aspect of the fabric learning book. I know this because 7 out of 10 found it effective, showing I have not quite met the brief of a learning book. In the future I could improve this by adding a bit of text naming each animal on the age or maybe including facts about the animals that the parents could read to the child, or the child could even practice their reading.

Another conclusion I have drawn from my test questionnaire is that I have not quite met the target markets preference when it comes to the crinkle effect on the front cover page. I know this because 6 out of 10 found it effective, showing I have not quite met the brief of a fabric book suitable for preschool children. In the future I could use a louder more crinkly sounding material rather than a square cut from a poly pocket as found in investigation 3.