DWELLINGS
CONSTRUCTING YOUR CASTLE
Welcome to Design LAB!

Over the next 16 weeks (or so), you will be participating in the Design LAB program. It will be fun, but it also may challenge you in ways you might not be used to – like seeing how creative you can be when trying to solve problems that people all over the world are facing.

Your first challenge is to learn about different types of homes. Then, use what you learned to create a model of one. How will your dwelling impact the world?
What is this, a space for ants?!

This photo shows the end product of the program: the model. This is what you are working towards. When the program is over, we hope you will have a model that you can be really proud of!

For that to happen, you need to follow along with the steps of the program. Trust the process and learn from every step of it.
The Design Process

1. Discovery
   - I have a challenge.

2. Interpretation
   - I learned something.

3. Ideation
   - I see an opportunity.

4. Experimentation
   - I have an idea.

5. Evolution
   - I tried something.

- This is the process you will follow during this program.

- There are variations of this process, but they all accomplish the same thing: they break down your design problem into manageable chunks, taking the problem one step at a time to a solution.
I have a challenge

Understand the challenge.
This will mean deciding on a client, identifying their needs, and knowing how to meet those needs.

Research and gather inspiration.
Knowing how to meet your client’s needs will depend on understanding how similar needs were met in the past. Research each aspect of your challenge to ensure that your solution is sound.
I Learned Something.

Search for Meaning
This can be an exciting step! Ask questions that were brought up by your research. What will this mean to your final solution? How can you overcome?

Identify Opportunities
Once you have thoroughly researched, you will probably have great, new, innovative ideas for how to address your problem and serve your client.
I See an Opportunity

Brainstorm Ideas
Let yourself think without constraints. Push your creativity by writing down or sketching every idea you have, even if you think they are bad ones. Those can turn in to some of the best ones.

Describe Ideas/Get Feedback
Now you have an idea of why you are doing this and how you will go about it. Create a presentation for your classmates to tell them – this should be both visual and verbal. Get their feedback, maybe one of them will think of something you hadn’t.
I Have an Idea

Start Tinkering
Have fun with this part. Start to play with materials and figure out how to make different aspects of your model. Look at objects/resources around you in different ways to help create your model.

Bring Your Ideas to Life
Continue to explore materials as you begin to build your model and watch all of your ideas come to life.
I Tried Something

Develop Your Idea
As you build your model, you may develop your original plan and it may change some. That is exactly what happens to professionals, too!

Share Your Vision
Use your completed model to share your vision. Educate others on the problem you wanted to solve and how you went about solving it.
The top project in each class will be on display during a week-long exhibit at the Cincinnati Public Library’s Main Branch! All other projects will be on display digitally and will compete for the Social Butterfly award.

The Design LAB Exhibit is on display from April 26 - May 2. We will have a closing reception to celebrate all of the hard work of each student and award projects that are distinct in certain categories.
Success Stories

- The tall kid in the first photo was one of the early participants of Design LAB standing next to her model of a transportation station. Fast forward 15 years and there she is on the right, talking to a crowd of 300+ about how Design LAB and her volunteer influenced her future. She is one of two former participants that have become Design LAB classroom volunteers.

- This program is meant to give you an idea of what you can do as an adult and the kinds of problems you could solve for the world.

- This photo could be you in fifteen years!
Everyone needs a home. Depending on different needs, these homes will need to be constructed very differently. We want you to think of how building dwellings differently can impact the world in a positive way.

When you think of a home, what do you think of? What do they usually look like? Who are they usually made for? What are they made of?
Close your eyes and imagine a dwelling.
Did you think of a dwelling that looked like this?
Dwellings can look different all over the world

Round homes in Lesotho, South Africa

Cave homes in Matmata, Tunisia
Dwellings can look different all over the world

Gingerbread Houses – Martha’s Vineyard  Yurts in Kyrgyzstan, Central Asia
Dwellings can look different all over the world

Hanok Houses in Korea

Adobe buildings in Acoma, New Mexico
Dwellings can look different all over the world

Stilt houses in Cambodia

Underground houses in Australia
Dwellings can be big and elaborate.....
...or small and simple.
Dwellings can be found in very cold areas....
...or very warm areas.
Dwellings can be found in trees....
...or on (or under!) water.
Dwellings can be made using recycled materials...
...and be sustainably designed.

Solar Panels

Green Roof
There are even dwellings that help animals!
Dwellings have changed a lot over time.
What do you think future dwellings will look like?
What will your dwelling look like?
What do all dwellings need? 
What do you think? Why?
Supplemental

How Are Homes Built
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i4im5Al_t4c