Primary level Activity Sheet : Leonardo’s Structures

Look at Leonardo’s inventions on display. These were all designed by Leonardo between the age of 26 and 60. Most of his designs were not constructed during his lifetime; this exhibition brings them to life.

1a. Go to where Leonardo’s manuscripts are. These are the books made up of Leonardo’s sketches.

1b. Do you see any drawings of natural things? What do you find?

2. Why did Leonardo make sketches of natural things?

3. Do any of his drawings show ideas for structures? Which ones do you find?

4. Do you see any examples of frame structures? Make a list.

5. Do you see any examples of web structures? Make a list.

6. Do you see any examples of shell structures? Make a list.

7. Go to the Hydraulics and Mechanical areas of Leonardo’s machines.

Choose a model of his inventions you can make move, with a structure that you can see.

- What is the name of the invention and what does it do?
- Draw the structure and show with arrows how it stands up.

8. Go to the Flight area of Leonardo’s machines.

Choose an invention you like with a structure that you can see.

- Does it remind you of anything from the natural world?
- What is the name of the invention and what does it do?
Leonardo Structures

- Draw the structure and show with arrows how it stands up.