# THE DESIGN THINKING STAGES

**UNDERSTAND** → **DECIDE** → **CREATE** → **BUILD** → **TEST**

**UNDERSTAND**
To design something, first learn about the design topic to understand it better. There is much to learn on any design topic. Understanding will inspire you and help you to design well.

**DECIDE**
What have you learnt about the design topic? What is necessary, that your design idea must definitely do or have? What is optional, that would be nice for it to do or have? What is unwanted, that your design idea should not do or have?

**CREATE**
Come up with as many different ideas as you can. Everyone is creative and can solve problems. Join forces with your classmates, you'll get more ideas that way. Continue until you have ideas that you really like. Ideas are limitless. Improve your ideas and combine them into a single excellent design idea.

**BUILD**
Build a real model of your design idea to show others. Building improves your design ideas, and gives you more ideas. Building and working with your hands is satisfying.

**TEST**
Test your design idea to check whether it works or not. There is still time to change and improve your design idea. Testing will help you become a better designer.

Design Thinking for Schools