



Name: _____

Class: _____ Date: _____

Designing Classroom Layouts

An activity of "How a new way to arrange kitchens changed lives".

About 100 years ago, architect Margarete Schütte-Lihotzky came up with the Frankfurt kitchen which revolutionised kitchen designs and made cooking easier and more comfortable. Read "How a new way to arrange kitchens changed lives" (page 16, *What's Up* July 2025).

ON YOUR OWN

A. Architect Margarete Schütte-Lihotzky had never cooked in a kitchen prior to creating the Frankfurt Kitchen. List the preparatory work that she did which helped her to come up with the design.

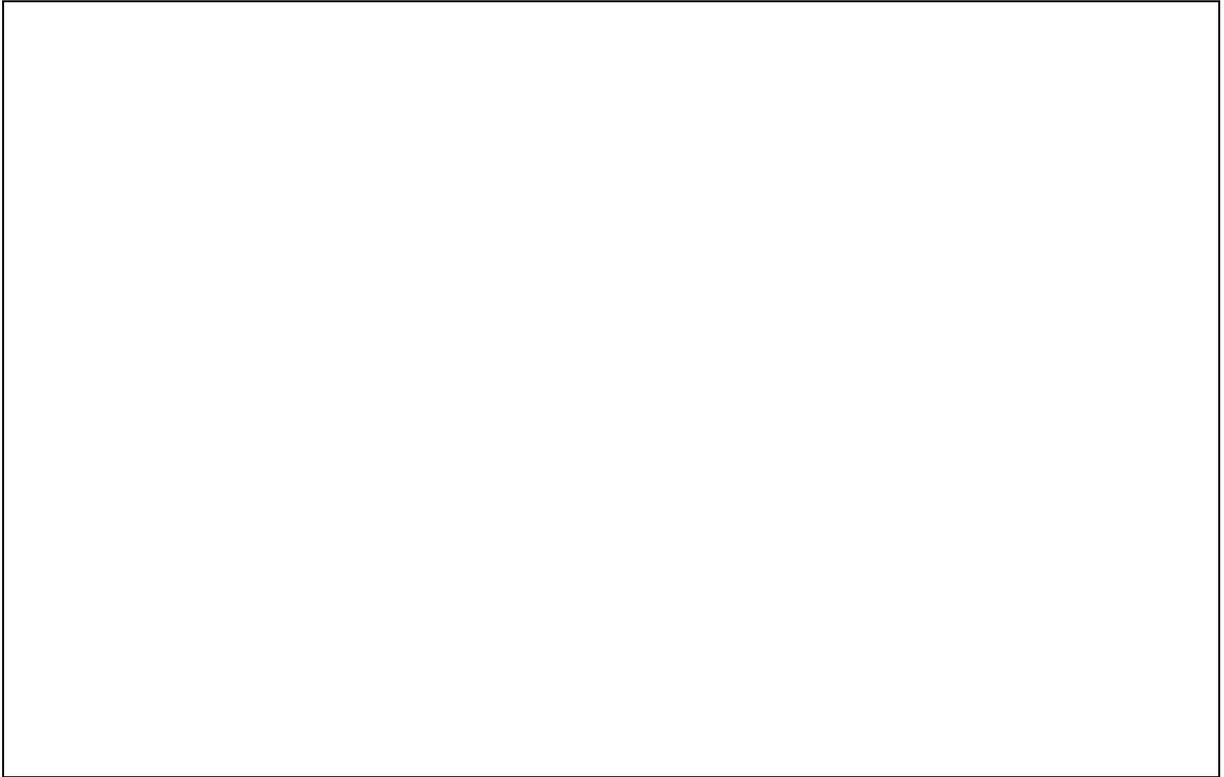
Preparatory work for designing a kitchen	
Interview	
Explore	
Test	

IN GROUPS

B. With your group, design a new layout for your classroom. Do the following preparatory work:

(1) **Interview:** Speak to your teachers and some students to find out what their ideal classroom should be like and what they feel is lacking in the current layout. Note their comments below.

- (2) **Explore online:** Using the internet, find out how the classroom layouts in other schools or countries are like. Sketch a few special features in the space below.



AS A WHOLE CLASS

- (3) **Field test:** Make a simple two-dimensional layout of the classroom on paper.

- Take measurements of the following in your classroom: length and breadth of the room, a student's desk, chair, and other furniture in the room.
- Using a scale of 1:20, draw on cardboard paper the desks, chairs and other objects that would be in your new classroom. Make a paper cutout of each.
- Draw the walls of your future classroom on flipchart paper. Arrange and rearrange the cut-outs on it to try out different classroom layouts.
- Decide on your best layout. Glue on the cutouts to create a display of your classroom layout.

- C. Have a Gallery Walk of all the classroom designs created. Vote for the layout that you like best.

With the permission of the teacher, arrange the classroom according to the layout with the most votes. At the end of the week, discuss the pros and cons of the new layout.

- D. In your small groups, reflect together on how helpful it was to apply this three-step approach to designing a physical space.