

Plan Your Site and Build Its Shape

60 minutes

Websites and Code

WHAT THIS LESSON DOES

In this lesson you plan a small two-page site on paper before building its shape with blocks. Add a home-page banner, second page, menus and boxes ready for content. Take a quick peek at the HTML code generated.

WHAT STUDENTS SHOULD BE ABLE TO DO

- Plan the structure of a two-page website on paper.
- Build the basic layout of a site using blocks.
- Spot how blocks generate HTML for web structure.

BEFORE THE LESSON

- Open the lesson on the board before pupils arrive so the Web Page Builder interactive is ready.
- Each pupil needs a device, or one between two, plus scrap paper and a pencil for a two-minute sketch.
- Leave code editing off: HTML and CSS tabs stay readable and locked.

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HOW THE LESSON RUNS

5 min	introduction	Start: What We're Building
5 min	content	Plan It on Paper First
6 min	activity	Open Your First Page and Name It
6 min	activity	Give the First Page a Banner
6 min	activity	Add Your Second Page
7 min	activity	Add a Menu so Both Pages Are Reachable
6 min	activity	Put a Box on Each Page
4 min	activity	Walk Your Own Site
8 min	activity	Your Turn: Make It Yours
3 min	content	Make Sense
2 min	content	Reflect
2 min	summary	What You Covered

TEACHING MOVES

- 1. Start: What We're Building. Frame the lesson as shape only: banner, second page, menus, empty boxes. Stress they are not filling pages with writing yet.
- 2. Plan It on Paper First. Time the sketch to about two minutes. At halfway call out: page names and one word each, stop decorating. Nudge vague topics toward something a visitor would understand.
- 3. Open Your First Page and Name It. Model renaming the page on the board first. Watch for unreadable colour pairs and say: if you squint and cannot read it, change it. Hold them on naming before banners.
- 4. Give the First Page a Banner. Model dragging banner from Layout. Stress the category name. Prompt site title, not page name: what would a visitor read first to know the whole site?
- 5. Add Your Second Page. Model a second page from Page beside the first, not inside it. Show nested versus separate on the board. Wait until both pages exist and are named before the menu.
- 6. Add a Menu so Both Pages Are Reachable. Model one menu, then send them to put one on each page. Stress: drag it in, nothing goes inside it. If the menu is empty, fix the pages first.
- 7. Put a Box on Each Page. Say box from Layout every time. Stop long paragraphs inside boxes. Call the shape checklist: two named pages, banner on home only, menus both ways, a box on each.
- 8. Walk Your Own Site. No new blocks. Have them test menu both ways and confirm a box on each page. Nested second page is the structural mistake to hunt for.
- 9. Your Turn: Make It Yours. Circulate with the checklist against their paper plan. Protect must-haves for those behind. Early finishers: one heading per box only. Warn that Start reloads the starter over saved work.
- 10. Make Sense. Keep to three minutes. Ask one pupil to show how the menu reaches page 2, and one to say what a box is waiting for. No new building.
- 11. Reflect. Display the prompts only. Optional thirty-second pair share if time allows. Do not skip Make Sense or the recap for the share.
- 12. What You Covered. Read or reveal the bullets. Remind them the site carries into the next lesson automatically: no export or file save needed.

WHAT TO WATCH FOR

- Dropping the second page block inside the first so it vanishes and the menu shows only one page. Show two separate page blocks side by side on the board. Have them drag the nested page back out onto the workspace.
- Typing the page name into the banner instead of the whole-site title. Ask: what would a visitor read first to know what this whole site is about? Banner on the home page only.
- Choosing background and text colours that cannot be read (for example light text on a light page). Say: if you squint and cannot read it, change it. Prefer light background with dark text.

DIFFERENTIATION

- Emerging: Protect the must-haves only: two named pages, menus that work both ways, at least one box. Banner can wait if time is short. Pairs may share one paper plan and one device.
- Developing: Circulate with the shape checklist against their sketch and prompt one missing piece at a time. Allow one short heading or a single word inside a box if they need something on the page, then stop them filling further.
- Proficient: Match screen to sketch and tidy colours and layout. Add one heading per box only. Park pictures, lists and extra pages for later lessons.