FURTHER IDEAS

The examples of teaching aids given in Part Two show how it is possible to design and make simple teaching aids. The experience gained in making some of these aids will enable teachers to develop other forms of equipment suitable for their own particular circumstances. Further ideas for such aids may be obtained from books and catalogues, adapting designs to suit the needs of individual pupils and using materials which are readily available. For example, there are ways of using household objects to make suitable teaching aids. Wooden spring type clothes pegs can be used in a variety of ways - drawing letters on pegs and clipping them on pieces of cardboard to form words is one simple method.

Jigsaw puzzles can be made by glueing pictures or maps on to plywood, hardboard or thick cardboard. A fine blade coping saw can be used to cut the jigsaw puzzle into the required number of pieces.

Children enjoy making designs and feeling surface textures. A simple design cut on the head of a wooden hammer enables a child to make patterns on moist clay. The design, letter or number should be cut on to the hammer face in a reverse pattern.

If it is possible to carry out practical work in the classroom a simple worktop will be most useful. A piece of plywood,
edged at top and bottom on reverse sides with strips of wood
will make a work surface that will not slip when placed on a
desk or table. One side can be used for clean work, and the
other side for work operations which could damage a table top.

Finally, there is a very wide range of materials in every-day use which may be used to make teaching aids. Discovering new and innovative ways to use such materials in the manufacture of safe and useful teaching aids can be a most rewarding educational experience.

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