

Peter Newman: *Skystation*, 2005
Fibreglass with coloured gel-coat



Four Questions:....and why?

- 1.What does this work remind you of?
- 2.What do you think it is made of? Do you think it is heavy or light? Is it hollow or solid?
- 3.How do you think the setting of the artwork affects how we look at it, and what we may think about when sitting on it?
- 4.Where would you put *Skystation*, and why?

(Photograph by Peter Newman)

Peter Newman (b.1969), designed *Skystation* to encourage people to sit back and **Look Up** at the sky. The shape was inspired by a very famous chair designed by the French-Swiss designer and architect, Charles-Édouard Jeanneret-Gris, better known as Le Corbusier, in 1928. The LC4 Chaise Longue, later became known as a “relaxing machine” because of the way its curves mirror those of a lounging body.

Skystation is made of fibreglass. This is a very strong but very light man-made material often used to make parts of boats and aeroplanes, for example. The material does not get too hot or too cold but keeps a comfortable temperature for us to sit on. The shiny finish reflects the passing clouds from the sky overhead.

Drawing Activity: Using coloured pencils

1. **Frame the Sky!** Look up at the sky and look all around. What frames the sky? Is it buildings? Is it framed by trees? What shape is the frame? Wherever we are, the sky will be framed differently in town, in the countryside, through a car window or a skylight.
2. Draw a picture of the sky and then design your own frame. This can be made from anything you like; cathedral spire, arches, leaves, flowers, use your imagination.

Talking Activity: ‘Reach for the stars!’

1. If *Skystation* could fly you anywhere you wanted in this world or any other, in outer space, different time zones etc., where would you like to go?

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