



# Designing the Future

## Episode Seven



This ten-part series is the result of a partnership between the Smithsonian Institution's Conservation Commons Earth Optimism Initiative, the Ministry of Education and Culture of the Republic of Indonesia, and the U.S. Embassy in Jakarta.

### Episode Seven Summary:

Design is everywhere we look. From the clothes we wear to the phone we use or the houses where we live. What if we could find a better way to design?

#### Videos:



#### Go inside "Nature" at Cooper Hewitt to see how designers envision the future | Climate Artists

See the inventions designed for a more sustainable future inside "Nature"—Cooper Hewitt Design Triennial. The exhibition that brings together designers, architects and academics to construct a new and sustainable future.

*Go Deeper:* <https://www.cooperhewitt.org/channel/nature/>



#### Smithsonian Year of Music // Año de la Música del Smithsonian

Where science meets music: a banjo player listens for the songs of katydids. A Smithsonian Scientist and musician tries to decode what is going on in katydids' lives through their sounds.

*Go Deeper:* <https://stri.si.edu/story/smithsonian-year-music>



#### Haute Hijab Athleticwear | Contemporary Muslim Fashions

Haute Hijab's collection will offer athletes multiple headcovering options made in a sustainably produced, naturally cooling fabric made from coffee grounds.

*Go Deeper:* <https://collection.cooperhewitt.org/objects/2318803425/>



#### Telling The Story: Matt Willey

Matt Willey discusses his For the Good of the Hive initiative which raises awareness about the importance of pollinators, while celebrating the beauty of nature and human connection.

*Go Deeper:* <https://nationalzoo.si.edu/animals/news/earth-optimism-oryx>

### Questions for Discussion:

- How can design impact climate change?
- What can humans and animals transmit through sound?
- How can a person use art as a form of activism?
- How can you use recycled materials to help nature?

### Episode 7 Vocabulary:

- Athletic
- Curator
- Life cycle
- Waste



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## Students Ask a Curator about Design

Andrea Lipps, is the Associate Curator of Contemporary Design at Cooper Hewitt Smithsonian Design Museum. Andrea has organized and contributed to numerous books and exhibitions. Her current exhibition, Nature—Cooper Hewitt Design Triennial, looks at how everything from architecture to product design and fashion address problems and work around the theme of nature.



### Key Facts

- The apparel and footwear industries account for a combined estimate of 8% of the world's green house gas emissions.
- Monarchs use the sun to stay on course while migrating, but they also have a magnetic compass to help them navigate on cloudy days.
- About 75% of all flowering plant species need the help of animals to move their pollen grains from plant to plant for fertilization.
- Katydid's rub their wings together to produce their song sound, which serves as part of their courtship.
- One T-shirt can be made with three cups of coffee grounds and five recycled plastic bottles.

### Educational Resources

7 Things You Should Know about Bees and Other Pollinators:

<https://nationalzoo.si.edu/animals/news/7-things-you-should-know-about-bees-and-other-pollinators>

In A Sustainable Fashion:

<https://www.cooperhewitt.org/2018/02/06/in-a-sustainable-fashion/>

Contemporary Muslim Fashion:

<https://www.cooperhewitt.org/channel/contemporary-muslim-fashions/>

Butterflies and Beyond:

<https://naturalhistory.si.edu/education/teaching-resources/life-science/butterflies-and-beyond>

**Find out more About Earth Optimism and how you can get involved**

<https://earthoptimism.si.edu>

**Find us on Social Media @earthoptimism #earthoptimism**



Earth Optimism is an initiative led by the Smithsonian Institution's Conservation Commons Network, including Movement of Life and Working Land and Seascapes Actions Areas, including The Smithsonian Conservation Biology Institute, Smithsonian Environmental Research Center, Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute, Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian Office of International Relations, Smithsonian National Zoological Park, Smithsonian Marine Station, Smithsonian Enterprises, Smithsonian Center for Folklife and Cultural Heritage, Smithsonian Science Education Center, Cooper Hewitt, Smithsonian Design Museum, and The Smithsonian Channel.



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