



Science - Use of Everyday materials

Uses of everyday materials









Materials are used for different purposes based on their properties. For example:

- wood is used to make furniture
- metal is used to make coins, cars and cutlery
- glass is used to make windows and bottles











Natural and Man-made

Natural materials are materials found in nature such as animals, plants or rock

 chalk	 sand	 leather	 gold
 cotton	 coal	 wood	 wool

Man-made materials are materials which have been produced by humans.

 bricks	 glass	 paper	 plastic
 rubber	 steel	 polyester	 nylon

Properties of materials

Material	Properties
Wood	opaque, hard and strong
Glass	transparent and waterproof
Metal	shiny, hard, smooth and strong
Plastic	waterproof and transparent
Fabric	stretchy and opaque
Bricks	rough and rigid
Leather	bendy and opaque
Paper	flexible and thin

Key Vocabulary

material	The matter from which a thing is or can be made
Properties	A feature of an object such as elastic, flexible, waterproof or rigid
man-made	Materials that are created by people
natural	Materials that exist in nature
opaque	An object you cannot see through
transparent	An object you can see through e.g. glass
bendy	Bends easily into a curved shape
brittle	Hard but likely to break easily
dull	A colour or light that is not bright
flexible	Materials that can bend easily
rigid	Unable to bend or be forced out of shape
rough	Uneven or not smooth
shiny	An object is bright and reflects light
smooth	No roughness, lumps or holes
soft	Not rough or hard
stiff	Firm or does not bend easily
squash	Press or squash something with force so that it loses its shape
bend	Something that bends easily into a curved shape
twist	Rotate something to make a spiral shape
stretch	Use a pulling force to make something longer or wider

How can a material change shape?

The shape of some materials can be changed when they are stretched, twisted, bent or squashed.



