

Year 1
Spring Term
Science

Marvellous Materials

In this unit children will learn all about materials and their properties.

Please note – we will be also be learning about seasonal change throughout the year.

Background information

Metal, plastic, wood, glass... just some of the materials we use to make the things that surround us. Children will explore what different items we use daily are made from. Different materials have different features, or properties, which make them suitable for different uses. Some materials maybe more suitable than others for particular uses or for manufacturing specific objects; for example, metal shoes wouldn't be very comfortable and a cardboard door wouldn't be very strong!

Knowledge and Understanding

In this unit pupils will learn...

- To be able to name everyday objects and identify which materials they are made of.
- To know that materials have different properties
- To be able to use scientific words to describe the properties of a variety of common materials.
- To understand that materials can be sorted and grouped in different ways.
- To understand that some materials can be more effective than others for making objects because of their properties.
- To find out how the shapes of solid objects made from some materials can be changed by squashing, bending, twisting and stretching.
- To identify and compare the uses of a variety of everyday materials. For example: wood, metal, plastic, rubber, wool, cotton, glass, clay, brick, rock, paper and cardboard.

Enquiry skills and Key concepts

Ask questions.

Use first-hand experience and simple information sources to answer questions

Think about what will happen before deciding what to do.

Use observations and research to materials eg using the senses

Describe how to identify and group materials.

Group materials in different ways e.g. according to their properties.

Investigate materials – predicting and recording outcomes.

Present and analyse findings in different ways.

Key Vocabulary:

Material: the matter from which a thing is or can be made.

Properties: The features, characteristics or qualities that something has.

The senses: the physical abilities of sight, smell, hearing, touch and taste

metal dull shiny reflective

plastic magnetic floats sinks

wood natural man made

paper bend stretch push pull twist

glass transparent waterproof

clay strong weak solid

rock soft hard rough smooth

rubber elasticated flexible