

Year 1

Unit: Everyday materials

Intent:

To distinguish between an object and the material from which it is made.

To identify and name a variety of everyday materials, including wood, plastic, glass, metal, water, and rock.

To describe the simple physical properties of a variety of everyday materials.

To compare and group together a variety of everyday materials on the basis of their simple physical properties.

Prior learning

EYFS – Use all their senses in hands-on exploration of natural materials.

EYFS – Explore collections of materials with similar and/or different properties.

EYFS – Talk about the differences between materials and the changes they notice.

Later learning (not in Year 1)

Year 2 – Identify and compare the suitability of a variety of everyday materials, including wood, metal, plastic, glass, brick, rock, paper, and cardboard for particular uses.

Year 2 – Find out how the shapes of solid objects made from some materials can be changed by squashing, bending, twisting, and stretching.

Key learning

Objects are things that you can touch or see. All objects are made of one or more materials.

Some objects can be made from different materials, e.g. plastic, metal, or wooden spoons.

Materials can be described by their properties, e.g. shiny, stretchy, rough, etc.

Some materials can be in different forms with very different properties (e.g. plastic).

Some materials are natural while others are man-made.



Key Questions:

How is metal and brick similar/different to each other?

What is the best material for an umbrella? Why?

What is the best material for curtains? Why?

How are objects similar/different based on the materials they are made from?

Why are some materials man-made?



Vocabulary

Absorbent	A material that soaks up liquid easily.
Bendy	An object that bends easily into a curved shape.
Brick	Rectangular blocks of baked clay used for building walls, which are usually red or brown.
Dull	A colour or light that is not bright.
Elastic	A rubber material that stretches when you pull it and returns to its original size and shape when you let it go.
Fabrics	Cloth or other material produced by weaving together cotton, wool, or other threads.
Foil	Sheets of metal as thin as paper.
Glass	A hard transparent material.
Man-made	Things that are created by people.
Metal	A hard substance such as iron, steel, gold, or lead.
Natural	Things that exist in nature and are not made by people.
Opaque	If an object or substance is opaque, you cannot see through it.
Plastic	A material which is light in weight and does not break easily.
Rock	The hard substance which the Earth is made of.
Rough	Uneven and not smooth.
Shiny	Things are bright and reflect light.
Smooth	No roughness, lumps, or holes.
Soft	Not rough or hard.
Stiff	Firm or does not bend easily.
Stretchy	Slightly elastic.
Transparent	If an object is transparent, you can see through it.
Waterproof	Does not let water pass through it.
Wood	The material which forms the trunks and branches of trees.