Year 2 Science: Properties of Materials Knowledge Builder

We have been finding out how the shapes of solid objects made from some materials can be changed by squashing, bending and stretching.

We can identify and compare the suitability of everyday materials, including wood, metal, plastic, glass, rock and cardboard for particular uses.

Metal is shiny, hard and smooth which makes it a suitable material to make a fork.

Plastic is waterproof and transparent which means it is a suitable material to make a water bottle.

Wood is hard and strong which means it is a suitable material to make a chair.

Everyday Materials:

Wood – a hard material that forms the branches and trunks of trees.

Plastic – a man-made material that can be shaped when soft into many different forms.

Glass – a hard, transparent material, used to make windows and bottles.

Metal – a material that is generally hard and strong - electricity and heat can travel through it!

Rock – the dry solid part of the earth's surface.

Cardboard – a lot thicker than paper and much stronger.

Properties of materials:

Hard – solid and firm to touch.

Soft – will move with touch and pressure.

Stretchy – capable of being stretched.

Stiff – difficult or impossible to bend or flex.

Shiny – bright or glossy in appearance.

Dull – not bright, shiny or clear.

Rough – has an uneven surface.

Smooth – has a flat, even surface.

Bendy – flexible.

Waterproof – water does not go through.

Absorbent – able to suck up a liquid.

Opaque - not letting light through.

Transparent– allows light to pass through.

Did you know!

Solids, unlike liquids or gases, have a definite shape that is not easy to change. Solids have properties such as stretch, strength, or hardness that make them useful for different jobs.