



Materials and their properties

We will learn...

Objects are things that you can touch or see. Objects are made from materials. There are lots of different types of materials. Glass, metal, rock, plastic, wood, water, brick, paper, fabrics, elastic and foil are all different types of material.

Each material has features which make it special. For example, glass is hard and transparent (you can see through it). These are called properties. There are many different properties that we can use to sort objects. We will use these properties to sort objects: transparent, waterproof, opaque, stiff, soft, shiny, rough, absorbent, bright, bendy, stretchy, hard, smooth and dull.

Some materials are man-made (made by humans) and some are natural (made by nature). Chalk is a natural material. Plastic is a man-made material.

Key vocabulary:

absorbent	Material that soaks up liquid easily.
waterproof	Does not let water pass through it.
transparent	If an object is transparent, you can see through it.
opaque	If an object or substance is opaque, you cannot see through it.
man-made	Things which are created by people.
natural	Things that exist in nature and are not made by people.

Working scientifically

In this topic we develop the following practical skills:

- ✓ Asking simple questions and recognising that they can be answered in different ways
- ✓ Observing closely, using simple equipment
- ✓ Performing simple tests
- ✓ Identifying and classifying

Investigations:

- How are materials similar/different to each other?
- What is the best material for an umbrella?



Inspirational Scientist

Patsy Sherman - chemist and inventor of stain repellent