

DIFFERENT TYPES OF MATERIALS

KEY IDEAS

- Different materials have different properties
- Materials can be classified into groups including state, shape, color, texture etc

EXAMPLE QUESTIONS

- What different types of materials are there?
- What kinds of things make materials different from each other?
- When sorting materials, what different groups can you put them into?

MATERIALS HAVE SHAPE COLOUR TEXTURE AND BEHAVE IN DIFFERENT WAYS

- There are many materials that have similarities and differences that can be seen (shape, color) and felt (texture).
- Some materials are flexible and others rigid.
- Some materials can be stretched or squashed easily and other can not.

MATERIALS CAN BE CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO DIFFERENT CHARACTERISTICS

- Shape, color, texture and flexibility are just some of the characteristics that enable materials to be classified.
- Some materials can be classified in more than one way.

DIFFERENT MATERIALS HAVE DIFFERENT USES

- We make use of both natural and manufactured materials.
- Which materials to use depends on their suitability for the intended job.

- For example, both natural wood and manufactured plastics are used to construct some buildings.
- The choice of material used also depends on their availability and cost.
- Features such as strength, rigidity, flexibility, durability (and sometimes the reverse), and how materials react to wetness or dryness, are just some of the criteria that have to be considered.
- Humans select the material that will do the intended job most effectively.

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