Year 2 – Use of everyday materials

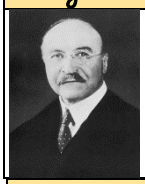
Why is plastic useful?

Prior learning	Future learning
In Year 1, you identified many different types of materials and described what they were useful for.	In Year 3, you will compare rocks based on how they look and their use. You will also investigate soil.

In this unit you will:

- Distinguish between an object and the material from which it is made
- Identify and name a variety of everyday materials, including wood, plastic, glass, metal, water, and rock
- Describe the simple physical properties of a variety of everyday materials
- Compare and group together a variety of everyday materials on the basis of their simple physical properties

Key Scientists: Leo Hendrik Baekeland

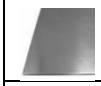
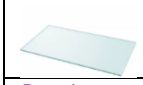
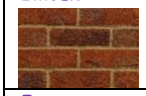


Leo Hendrik Baekeland was the first scientist to invent plastic. He invented a type of plastic which did not soften when heated. Radios and telephones were then created because of his plastic invention.

Science discipline: Chemistry

Chemistry is the study of the make-up of all things and how they behave. It's based on the study of matter, which is what makes up everything in the universe and on Earth.

Scientific diagram

Material	Properties	Uses
Wood 	Hard, strong and stiff	Fences, garden sheds, table and chairs.
Metal 	Hard, strong, opaque and can be shiny	Table and chair legs
Fabric 	Can be soft, waterproof, absorbent and warm.	Coats, jumpers, t-shirts, trousers, curtains, towels.
Glass 	Transparent, waterproof and smooth.	Windows, spectacles, greenhouses.
Brick 	Hard, opaque, strong and rough	Houses, walls.
Paper	Thin, light and can easily change shape.	Writing, reading books.
Cardboard 	Thicker than paper and can change shape.	Parcels, boxes.

Vocabulary:

- **Opaque:** Cannot be seen through and does not allow light to pass through it.
- **Transparent:** Light completely passes through it, and you can see clearly through it.
- **Translucent:** Some light passes through it, but the light is scattered, so you can't see clearly through it.
- **Absorbent:** Types of materials which can soak up liquid.