

Natural Materials

These are materials that are 'naturally' found around us. We may have to dig them out of the ground, grow them, or take them from living things.

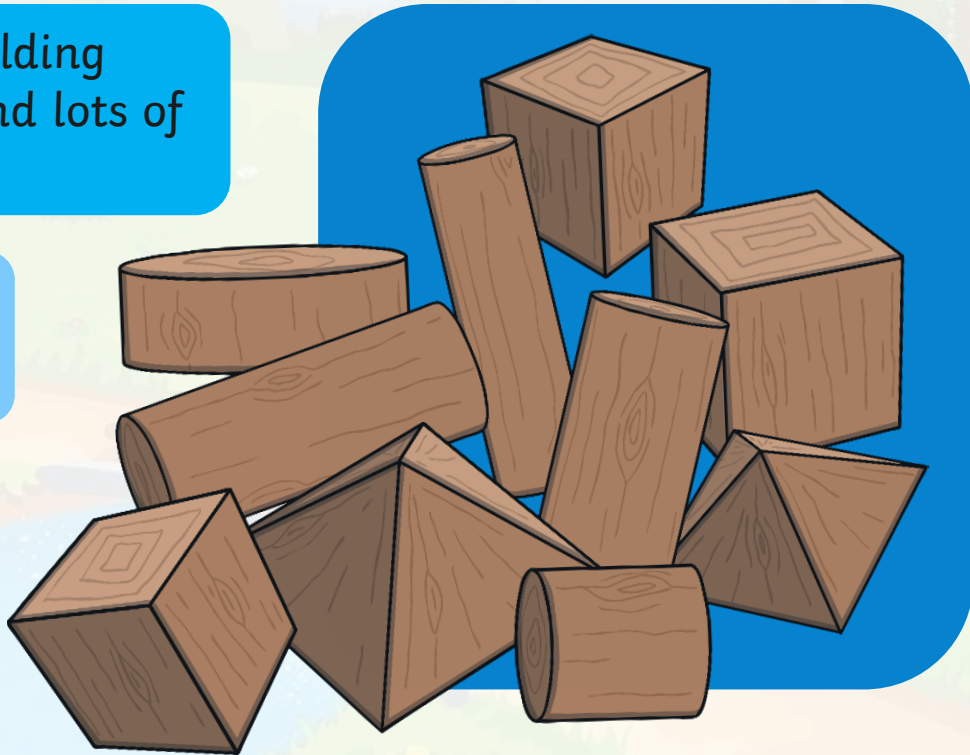


Wood

It is used for burning, building houses, benches, fences and lots of other things.

It isn't chemically processed so it is natural.

Wood comes from stems and roots of trees and other woody plants.



Cotton

Cotton is a soft, fluffy material that grows around the seed of the cotton plant.

There are no chemical processes used to make cotton so it is a natural material.

The cotton is spun into yarn to make a soft breathable fabric.

Cotton is used to make clothes and furnishings.



Gold

Gold is a metal found as nuggets in rocks.

It is not chemically processed so it is a natural material.

Gold is melted down to make jewellery, gold teeth and used in industry.

Gold is also used for investment. It is kept in bars which are worth lots of money.

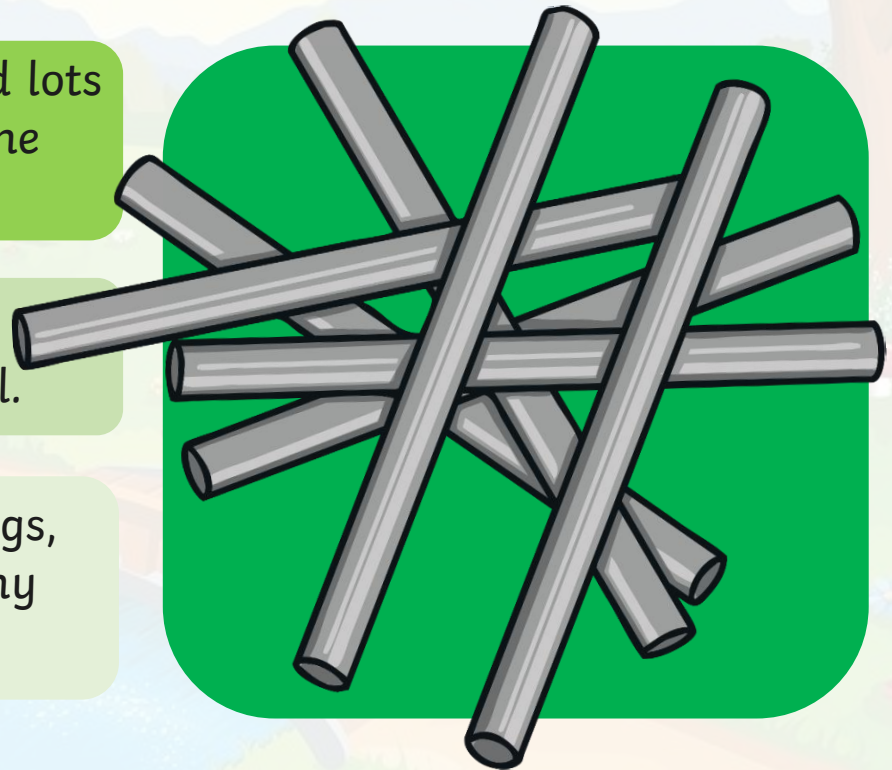


Iron

Iron is a metal. There is lots and lots of iron on earth. It is found in the earth's crust and core.

It is not chemically processed therefore it is a natural material.

It is used to make gates, buildings, tools, fireplaces, piping and many more.



Leather

Leather is a material created by the tanning of animal hide and skins. Usually from cattle.

It is not chemically processed therefore it is a natural material.

It is used for shoes, jackets, other clothing, upholstery and also used in industry.

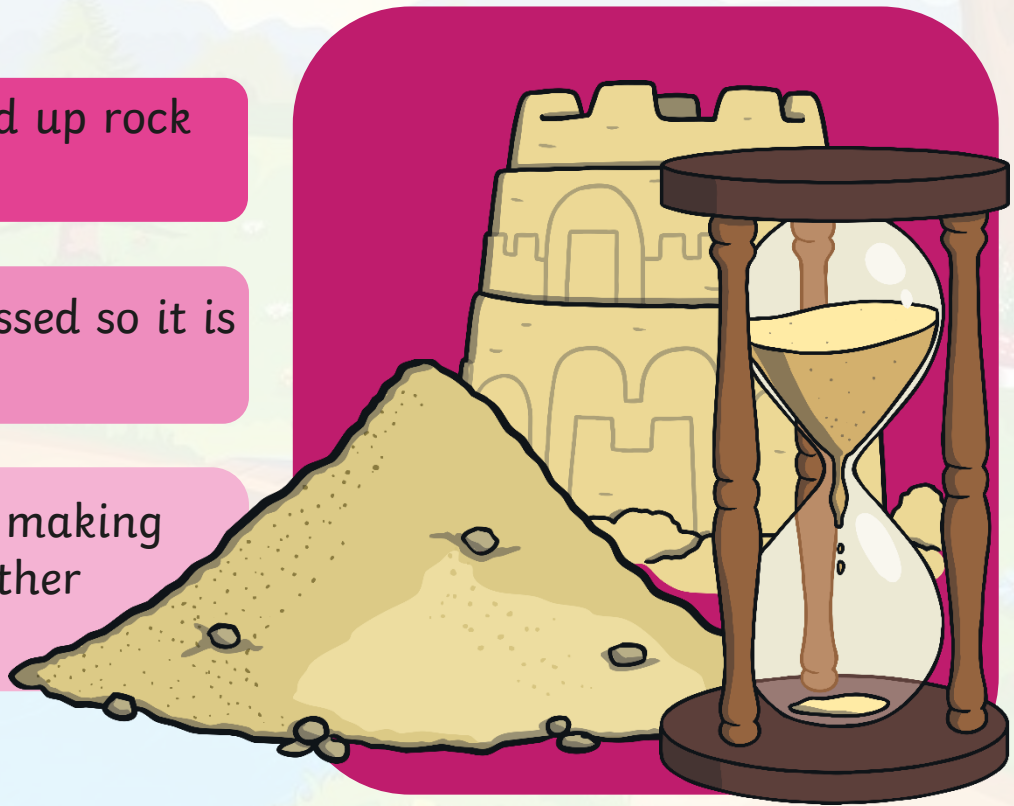


Sand

Sand is made from ground up rock and mineral particles.

It is not chemically processed so it is a natural material.

It is used in concrete and making glass. It also has lots of other uses.



Man-made Materials

These are natural materials that are changed through chemical processes by 'man'.

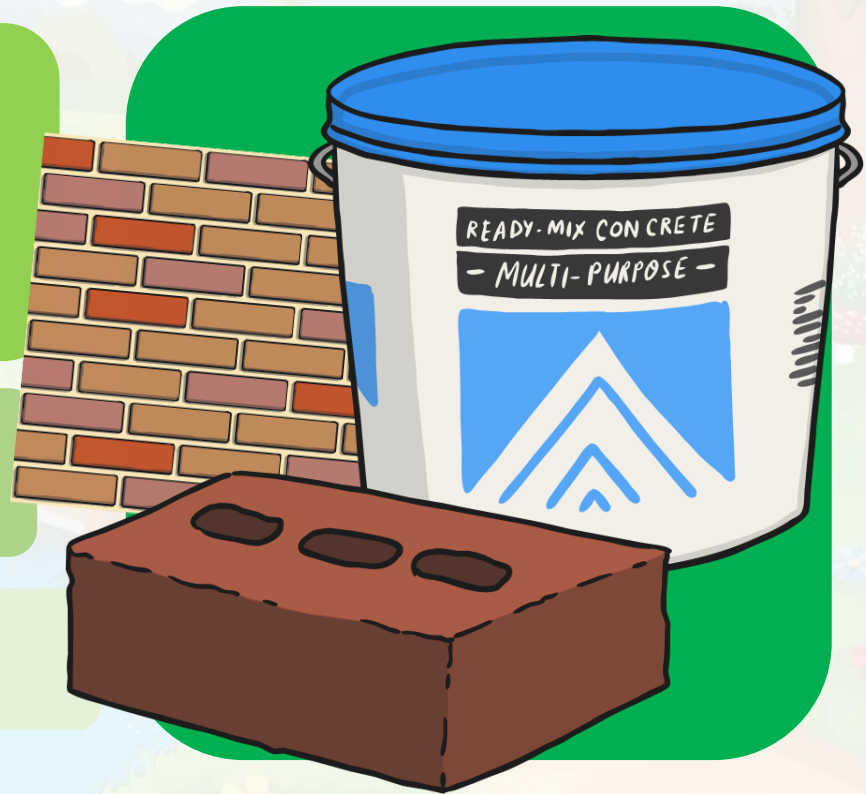


Concrete

Concrete is a mixture of water, rock, sand and cement. Cement causes a chemical reaction (process) which binds the water, rock and sand.

Because it is processed it is a man-made material.

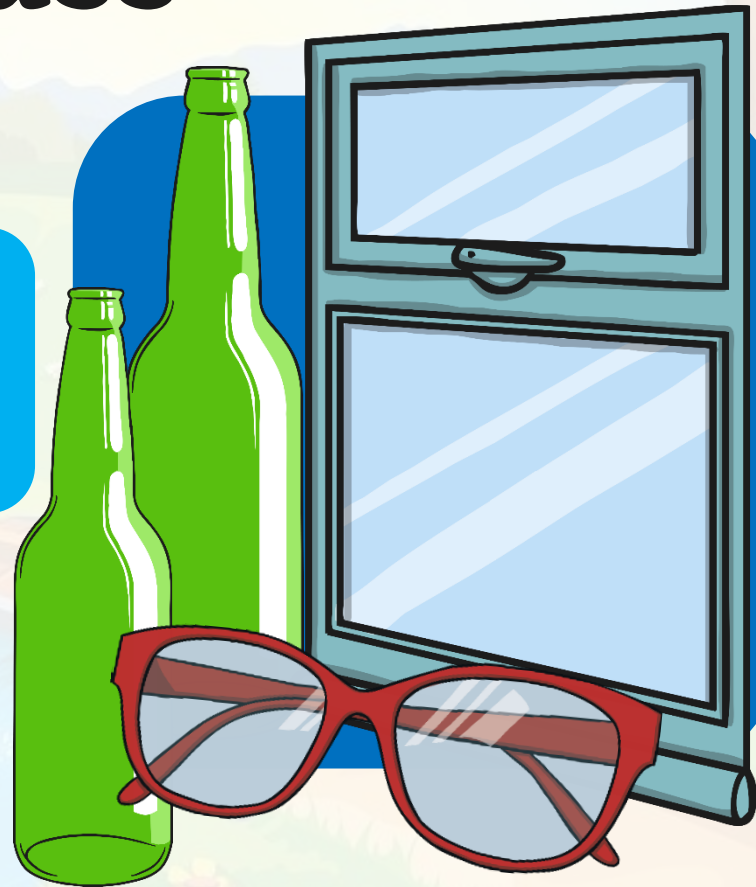
It is used for buildings, walls, flooring and statues.



Glass

Glass is man-made as silica and other materials are melted down and fused together (chemically processed) to create it.

It is used for glasses, bottles and windows.



Paper

Paper is made from wood (a natural material).

Although the wood is chemically processed to make paper so therefore it is man-made.



Rubber

Rubber is made from a material from trees or petroleum.

Both ways the natural materials are chemically processed therefore rubber is man-made.

Rubber is used for tyres, shoe soles, erasers, toys and many more.



Plastic

There are many types of plastic.

Plastics are man-made because they are made from chemically processed oil (a natural material).

Plastics are all around us. Some uses are plastic bottles, toys, stationary and technology casing.



Your Task

Go on a material hunt around your house and make a list of all the natural and man-made things around the house.

How many will you find?

Challenge: Write a list of things in the house that are made of the following materials:

- Wood
- Plastic
- Metal