25SCHOOLS
FREE LEARNING NOTES FOR ZAMBIA

GRADE 1 · TERM 2

Science

Materials

Lesson notes for learners · Competence-Based Curriculum

INSIDE

1. Finding and sorting materials
2. Natural materials and made by people
3. What we use materials for
4. Check yourself

Materials are all around us. We can see them, touch them, smell them and feel them. Your cup, your chair, your clothes and your toys are all made of materials. In this note you will find materials, sort them and see how people use them.

AFTER THESE NOTES YOU SHOULD BE ABLE TO

- Name some materials found around us
- Sort materials as hard or soft, smooth or rough
- Tell natural materials from materials made by people
- Say how we use materials for building, tools, clothes and toys

KEY WORDS

Material	What a thing is made of, such as wood, metal or cloth.
Natural	Found in nature, not made by people, like a stone or a leaf.
Made by people	Made in a factory or by hand, like a plastic cup.
Smooth	Feels flat and even when you touch it, with no bumps.

1 Finding and sorting materials

Go on a walk around your school or your village. Look for materials. You may find wood, cloth, metal, glass, plastic, paper and water. You may also collect leaves, stones and sticks.

Be careful. Some things are safe to pick up. Some things can hurt you. Ask your teacher which things are safe.

Back in class, sort your things into groups. You can sort by smooth or rough. You can sort by hard or soft. Say what is the same about the things in each group. Tell your friends why you put them there.

Material	How it feels
Cotton ball	Soft
Metal spoon	Hard and smooth
Stone	Hard and rough
Plastic cup	Hard and smooth

Figure 1. Sorting materials by how they feel

2 Natural materials and made by people

Some materials are natural. Wood, stones, water and leaves are natural. They come from nature.

Some materials are made by people. A plastic cup, a glass bottle and a paper book are made by people.

Play the mystery bag game. Put a cotton ball, a metal spoon, a wooden toy and a plastic cup in a bag. Close your eyes. Feel one thing and say the words that tell how it feels. Then guess the material.

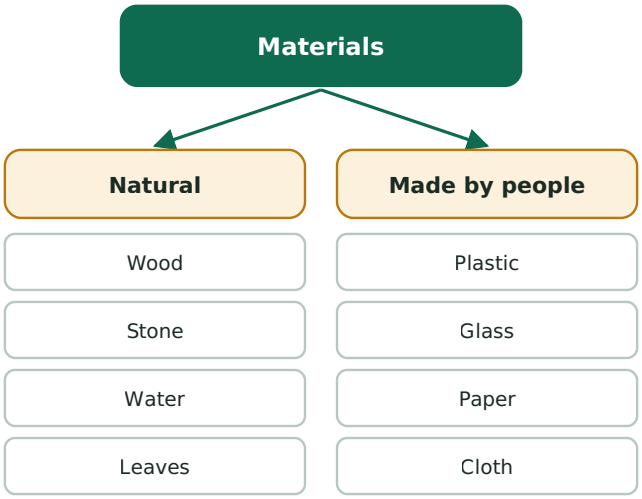

Figure 2. Two groups of materials

3 What we use materials for

We use materials to build houses and to make tools. We use materials to make clothes and toys. A spoon is made of metal. A toy can be made of wood. Cloth is used for clothes.

You can use materials to make art. Use paper, glue, clay or sand to make a picture. You can also build a small house with blocks or straw and sticks. Tell the class which piece is the most creative and why.

In the story of the Three Little Pigs, the houses are made of straw, sticks and bricks. What do you think about each house. Say what each material is like.

TRY THIS

Look around your home. Find three things made of different materials. Say what each thing is made of and how it feels. Tell your friends if each one is natural or made by people.

REMEMBER

- Materials are what things are made of
- We can sort materials by how they feel
- Some materials are natural and some are made by people
- We use materials for building, tools, clothes and toys

? Check yourself

1. Name three materials.
2. Is a stone a natural material or made by people.
3. Is a plastic cup soft or hard.
4. What do we use cloth for.
5. Your teacher puts a cotton ball, a metal spoon and a wooden toy in a bag. You close your eyes and feel one thing. It is soft and light. (a) Which material is it. (b) Is it hard or soft. (c) Name one hard material in the bag.
6. At the market a girl sees a plastic basin, a wooden spoon and a clay pot. Her mother asks her to say which are made by people and which come from

nature. (a) What is the wooden spoon made from. (b) Name one thing made by people from the list. (c) Name a natural material.

ANSWERS

1. Any three of: wood, cloth, metal, glass, plastic, paper, water.
2. Natural.
3. Hard.
4. Clothes.
5. (a) The cotton ball. (b) Soft. (c) The metal spoon or the wooden toy.
6. (a) Wood. (b) The plastic basin. (c) Wood or clay.

Written by 25Schools to follow the Grade 1 Science syllabus of the Zambian competence-based curriculum. Free for learners to read, download and share. More notes and quizzes at 25schools.com.