

Starters for Science are 4 activities that parents can use at home to help children develop their science alongside the key learning and vocabulary children are using at school. The activities are easy to resource and provide children with the stimulus to learn and talk about their science topic. Encourage children to use the correct vocabulary as they talk about what they are doing and finding out. Don't forget to share your work on social media

#ScienceFromHome

Key Learning:

Everyday materials such as wood, metal, plastic, glass, brick, rock, paper and cardboard are used for particular purposes.

Materials can be used for more than one thing. Metal, for example, can be used to make jewellery, cutlery, paperclips and zips. Cutlery could also be made out of plastic or even wood. So different materials could be used to make the same object.

A material's suitability for different purposes is dependent on its properties. For example, glass is used for windows because it is rigid and transparent (lets light through so it is see through). A mirror is used in a car because it is highly reflective.

The shapes of some materials can be changed through applying a force through pushing or pulling. Solid objects, like playdough or a bath sponge, can change shape through twisting, squashing, stretching, rolling, bending etc.

Vocabulary:

As Year 1 plus:

fabric
paper
cardboard
brick
opaque
transparent
translucent
reflective/non-reflective
flexible/rigid
shape
pushing
pulling
twisting
squashing
bending
stretching

Plastic fantastic!

Do you have some plastic for recycling? Think of some creative ways you could reuse the plastic. Why would plastic be fit for that purpose?

[https://
explorify.wellcome.ac.uk/en/
activities/problem-solvers/
plastic-fantastic](https://explorify.wellcome.ac.uk/en/activities/problem-solvers/plastic-fantastic)

As much use as a chocolate teapot

Think up some silly products like a chocolate teapot that would melt as soon as you added hot tea. The material and their properties would be all wrong from the job the object needs to do. Draw pictures of your ideas.

Design a sports kit

Design a sports kit suitable for a sport you choose. Think about the type of material you will use and why you have used it.

[https://
explorify.wellcome.ac.uk/en/
activities/problem-solvers/
design-a-sports-kit](https://explorify.wellcome.ac.uk/en/activities/problem-solvers/design-a-sports-kit)

Silly shapes

Find or make some playdough. How many different shapes can you make by squashing, bending, twisting and stretching your dough?