

Uses of Materials

Materials

Materials are what things are made from. There are many everyday materials.



baked clay



fabric



glass



metal



paper



plastic



rock



wood

Properties

A property is a quality that a material has. Properties include:

- absorbent
- not absorbent
- opaque
- transparent
- bendy
- not bendy
- rough
- smooth
- hard
- soft
- stretchy
- not stretchy
- strong
- not strong
- waterproof
- not waterproof

Materials can have several properties. For example, wood is hard, strong, opaque and absorbent.

Properties and their uses

Objects are made from materials with suitable properties.



absorbent sponge



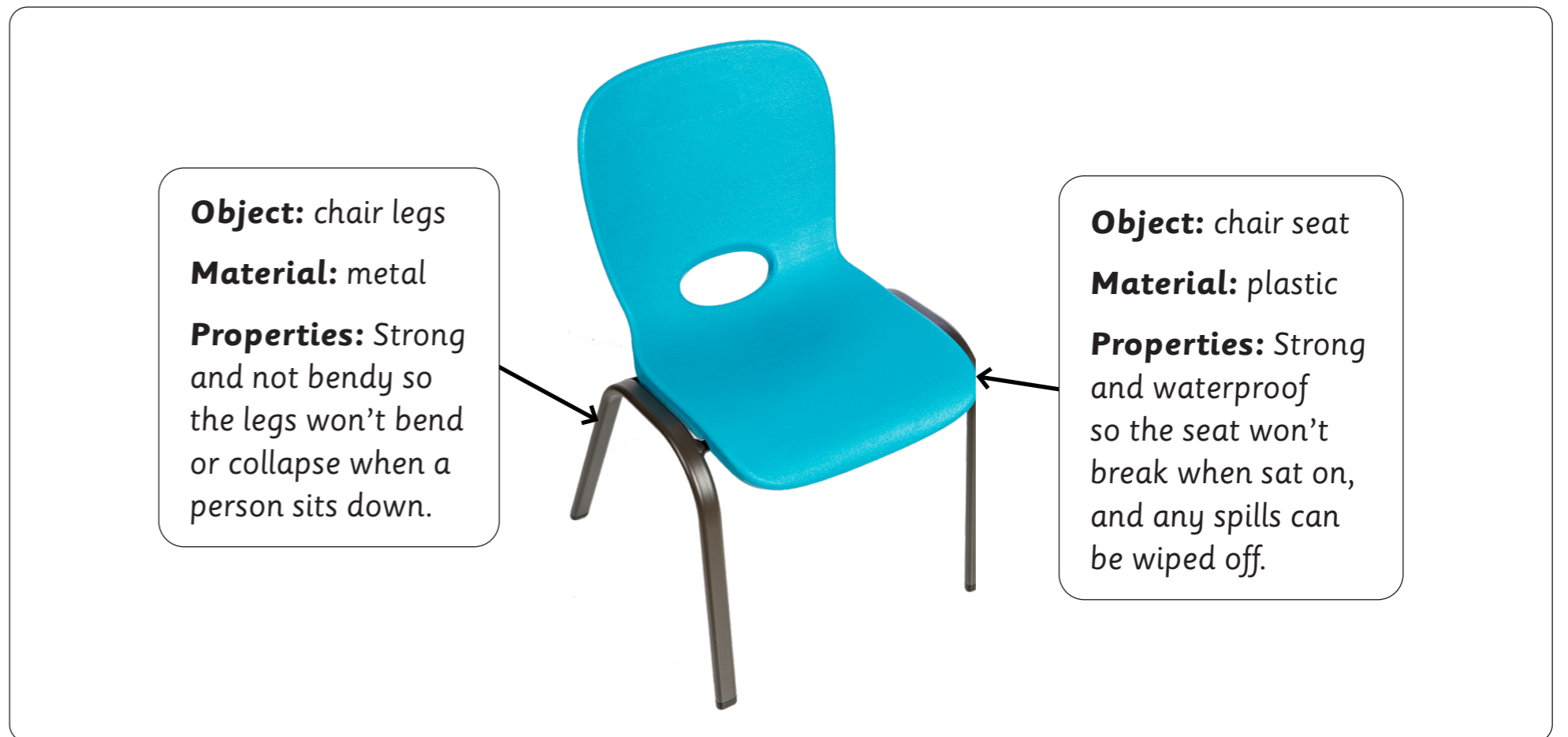
soft fabric



stretchy rubber band

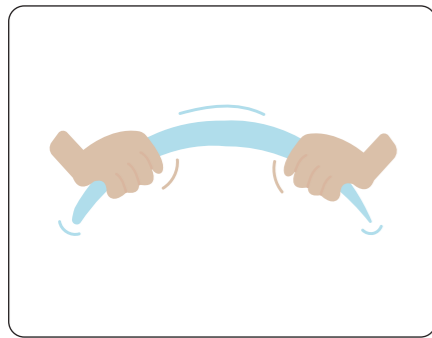


transparent vase

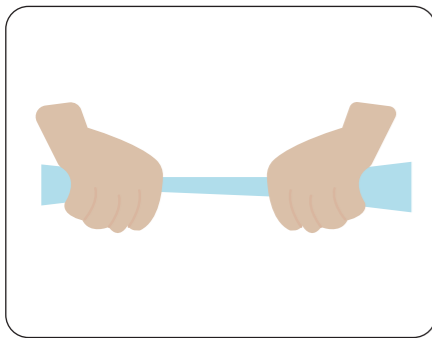


Shaping materials

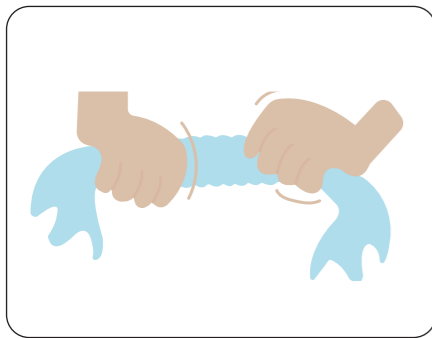
Materials can be shaped by bending, stretching, twisting and squashing.



bending



stretching



twisting



squashing



Recycling

Recycling means turning old products into new ones. This makes less waste and uses fewer of the Earth's natural resources.

This is a table of materials that can be recycled.

| Material | Products | Examples |
|-----------|---------------------------|----------|
| cardboard | packaging | |
| glass | bottles and jars | |
| metal | tins, cans and foil trays | |
| paper | newspapers and magazines | |
| plastic | bottles, pots and trays | |

Reduce, reuse and recycle

There are three ways we can save the Earth's natural resources.

Reduce the number of objects we buy and the amount of packaging we use.

Reuse items like carrier bags and envelopes.

Recycle as much waste as possible.



Glossary

absorbent An absorbent material easily soaks up liquid.

opaque An opaque material stops light from travelling through it, so you cannot see through it.

transparent A transparent material allows you to see through it.

waterproof A waterproof material does not let water pass through it.

