



Choosing the right material for the job

5th Class

Print and cut along the dashed lines. These carry the **text a group reads**: a job to do, a brief to research, or notes to identify by. Check the lesson's teacher notes for how many sets each group needs and how they are used: some lessons hand out one card per group, others sort or sequence a full set.

Card A: Raincoat

Job 1 is to keep rain out, and job 2 is to let sweat escape. To test job 1, drip water on and watch whether it rolls off (score 1 to 3). To test job 2, hold the material to your mouth and gently breathe through it: if air passes through easily, it lets sweat escape (score 1 to 3)

Card B: Lunchbox

Job 1 is to be rigid, so lunch is not squashed, and job 2 is to be light to carry. To test job 1, rest a 100 g weight on the material held flat across two hands and see how much it bends (less bend scores higher, 1 to 3). To test job 2, feel and compare the four materials by hand: the lightest gets the top score (1 to 3)

Card C: School-bag strap

Job 1 is to be strong, so it will not tear, and job 2 is to be soft, so it will not dig into a shoulder. To test job 1, hold the material at both ends and give a firm, steady pull: the one that resists tearing scores highest (1 to 3). To test job 2, press each material to your wrist or cheek: the softest scores highest (1 to 3)