



Natural versus manufactured

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.

Wood

Wood comes from trees such as oak, ash or pine that grow in Irish woodlands and farms. People cut the tree, dry the timber and shape it into spoons, rulers, furniture and buildings. It is a natural material when it is still clearly wood

Wool

Wool grows on sheep. On Irish farms, sheep are sheared, then the fleece is washed, spun into yarn and knitted or woven into jumpers and blankets. The fibre starts natural; heavy dyeing and blending can move a finished fabric toward manufactured

Paper

Paper usually starts as wood from trees. The wood is broken into pulp, mixed with water, pressed and dried into sheets. Because people change the wood so much, paper counts as manufactured, even though the raw material is natural

Plastic

Many everyday plastics begin as oil or natural gas from deep underground. In factories the oil is changed through chemical processes into pellets, then melted and shaped into bottles, lids and rulers. Plastic is manufactured

Glass

Glass is made mostly from sand along with other ingredients such as soda ash. The mixture is heated to a very high temperature until it melts, then shaped into jars, windows and marbles. Glass is manufactured from a natural raw material

Steel (in a paperclip)

Steel is made from iron dug from rocks in the ground, mixed and heated with other ingredients in industry. It is stretched and shaped into paperclips, cans and beams. Steel is manufactured