

Can you  
make it?

# Can you make it?

Name:

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Class:

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Date:

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# Hello, I am Doctor Di and I am a Materials Engineer!

Can you make it?

I will be helping you to find out science, engineering and materials. We will find out about:

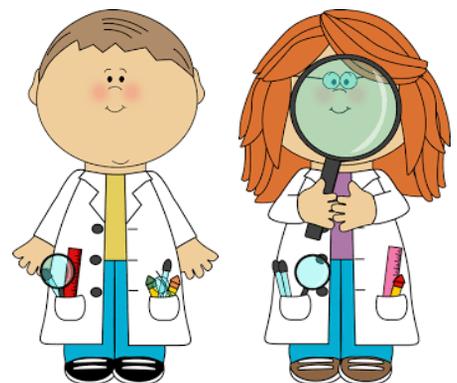
- What scientists and engineers do
- Natural and man-made materials
- Properties of materials and where they are used
- How to work like real engineers to solve a challenge

You can use this workbook to write about what you have seen and record your results. You can keep this to remind you about materials in your lessons.

You will be working with a partner or in a small group with a teacher or other adult helper. Please follow these simple rules so that we can all have a fun time investigating materials!

- Please listen when Dr Di, another adult or one of your friends is talking.
- Please walk around our room, there is no rush!
- Please be careful with the samples of different materials.
- Please put your hand up if you would like to ask a question.

## Are you ready to explore our material world?



# What is STEM?

Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM) are really important subjects and most jobs will need to you use a little bit of at least one of these.



Put **S**, **T**, **E** or **M** next to the jobs where you think it is important to understand some **S**cience, **T**echnology, **E**ngineering or **M**aths. Some jobs might use more than one subject.

- Builder
- Dentist
- Chef
- Bus driver
- Librarian
- Vet
- Plumber
- Shop worker
- Teacher
- Hairdresser
- Farmer
- Artist

# What do scientists and engineers do?

Scientists and Engineers help us to understand the world around us; they invent, design and develop solutions to problems.



Choose 5 people on the posters around the room and see if you can work out what they do.

Name	I think their job is...

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# Natural or man-made?

**Natural materials** are found all around us. Sometimes we dig them out of the ground, sometimes we grow them in the ground and sometimes we take them from living things.

**Man-made materials** are not found in nature. We take a natural material and then do something to it to turn it into something more useful.



**Can you sort these materials?** Draw a line from each material to show whether you think it is natural or man-made.



## Natural



## Man-made



# Types of materials

We have many thousands of materials to choose from so we split them in to groups.



Can you think of three materials in each group? I've done the first one for you...

Metals	Plastics	Ceramics
Wood	Fibres	

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# Properties of materials

We use words to describe how materials look, feel or behave. We call these describing words **properties**.



Can you think of some useful properties of materials and write them here?

Metals	Plastics	Ceramics
Wood	Fibres	

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# Your challenge

Over the next couple of weeks you will be working with a partner to build the lightest possible crash protection suit that will stop an ordinary hen's egg from breaking when it is dropped from a height of about 1.5m on to a hard floor.

You will need to choose your materials carefully and think about how you can put them round your egg to give the best protection.

You will need to think about your egg and how it will behave when you drop it.

You cannot use wings or make a parachute!

You will be working like a real scientist or real engineer and so you will work through your challenge in five stages:

- Research – what have other people done before?
- Design – what do you think your crash suit should look like?
- Build – how are you going to create your crash suit?
- Test – does it do the job?
- Evaluate – how could you have made it better?

This is a competition so there are prizes! There will be a prize for the lightest design that protects the egg and a prize for the best team name. So get your thinking caps on, un-scramble your brains and get cracking!

**I will be back to test your designs in a couple of weeks, good luck!**



# Our research

To help you to understand how to build your crash suit you will talk a little bit about real crash helmets.

**Write a sentence to say why do you think crash helmets are important?**

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**Use the space below to write some notes about crash helmets and the materials that are used to make them.** There is a list of words below to help you.

Crash helmets are made from special types of \_\_\_\_\_.

They contain tiny bubbles of \_\_\_\_\_ and look a bit like Aero chocolate.

The bubbles squash when the helmet hits the \_\_\_\_\_ and this stops you getting hurt as badly.

Crash helmets need to be \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ because you wouldn't wear them if they were big and heavy!

- THIN      FOAM      LIGHT      GROUND      AIR**

**Can you think of 10 places where you might need to wear a crash helmet?**

1	6
2	7
3	8
4	9
5	10

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# Our design

My partner is \_\_\_\_\_

Our team is called \_\_\_\_\_

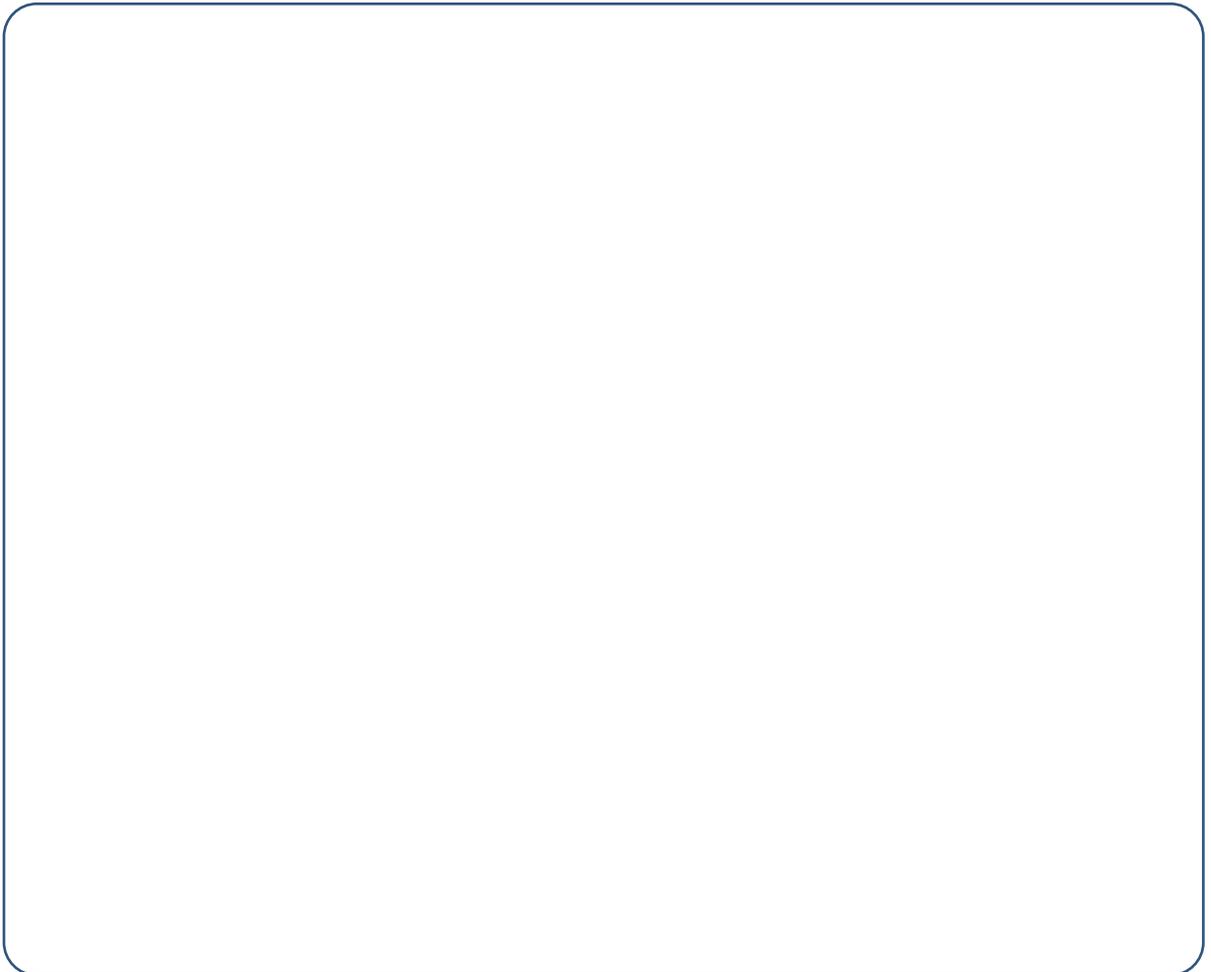
Use the space below to draw and describe how you are going to use your materials to build a winning crash suit. Don't forget to label your diagram. Each group will be given the same amount of:

**Expanded polystyrene**

**Bubble wrap**

**Sponge**

**Sticky tape**



# Our results

Before you start building your crash suit you need to weigh your egg. Once you have built the suit you should weigh your egg again to work out how much material you have used (don't forget to use the right units!).

Our egg weighed \_\_\_\_\_  
Our egg weighed \_\_\_\_\_ wearing its crash suit  
So we used \_\_\_\_\_ of material

## Testing our design

It is important to make sure that all the designs are tested in the same way, everyone has had the same materials to choose from, everyone has had the same amount of time and everyone's design will be dropped from the same height. We are looking at how the materials you have chosen for your design protect the egg. This is called **FAIR TESTING**.

**Put a tick by the correct meaning of Fair Testing.**

Fair testing is when you change everything all at once to see what happens.

Fair testing is when you keep everything the same except for the one thing that you want to investigate.

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# Our prediction

Before your design is tested you should make a prediction of what you think will happen. **Complete this sentence...**

When our design is tested I think it will \_\_\_\_\_  
because \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

# Our evaluation

This is one of the most important parts of any investigation. Evaluating your results means going back and having a look at what you did and whether it worked and then thinking about how you could have improved your design so that it worked better. **Use the space below to describe what happened when your egg was dropped and how you could have made it better...**

When our egg was dropped it **smashed** **cracked** **survived**  
We could have made our design better by \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

You can use this space to write any extra notes throughout your project

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