

## Activity Cover Sheet

Activity Name	Building Materials and Their Properties
<b>Activity Descriptor</b>	Participants will be encouraged to consider a range of materials used in the construction industry; to perform simple comparative tests and to record and discuss their results.
<b>Activity Aims</b>	To raise awareness of the construction industry and the materials used To raise awareness of construction careers
<b>Activity Length</b> <i>All timings given are approximate and for the basic activity described here. Additional time should be allowed for extensions.</i>	2 hours
<b>Preparation Required</b>	A range of construction materials would need to be sourced
<b>Group Size</b> <i>Remember that the overall size of the group/audience involved may affect timings</i>	The number of participants would be dictated by the resources/materials and space available
<b>Audience</b> <i>This is the recommended age range for this activity.</i>	This activity is aimed at age 5-11 years
<b>Suggested timetable</b>	20 setting up 10 minutes introduction 20 minutes exploring the properties of the materials and recording 30 - 40 conducting simple tests and recording 20 minutes discussion of results 10 minutes to clear
<b>Extension ideas</b>	Very young participants could use the story of the Three Little Pigs to introduce the concept of comparison of suitable building materials This activity could be used in conjunction with a site visit. Participants could be set additional tasks such as to identify items within the home which are made from these materials Participants could be asked to research and identify the job roles associated with each material This activity could be used in conjunction with Spot The Skills – also in the Go Construct Resources section Older participants could research some job roles using the Careers Explorer A-Z on Go Construct

<b>Resources Required</b>	A range of construction materials are required: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sand</li> <li>• Wood – planed as well as unplanned timber; eg samples of skirting as well as fencing timber</li> <li>• Plastic –piping/fall pipe/guttering/drain/window as well as sheeting</li> <li>• Metal - piping and/or short lengths of scaffolding</li> <li>• Glass – for safety a glass jar could be used rather than sheet glass</li> <li>• Bricks – a range of different brick/block designs</li> <li>• Access to water</li> </ul>
<b>Documentation List</b> <i>Documents may need to be photocopied/printed in multiples if dividing audience into small groups/teams</i>	No documents necessary but there is an Answer Sheet to assist with identifying job roles
<b>Future Employability Skills</b>	Communication, following instructions
<b>Curriculum Links</b>	Science, Materials and properties, materials and objects
<b>Construction Sector Links</b>	Health & Safety, Housebuilding, Off – Site Manufacture