

What is the best
material for an
umbrella?

Year 1
Turtles

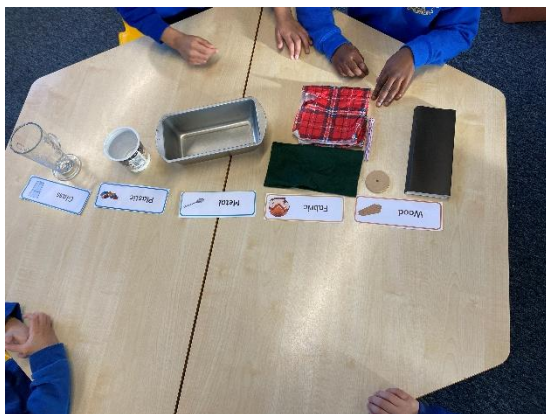
We thought about the question: What is the best material for an umbrella? We then discussed the times we have used an umbrella and what we think the umbrella was made from.

My umbrella is big and covers my head.

My umbrella has spiderman on.

Mine has a metal handle.

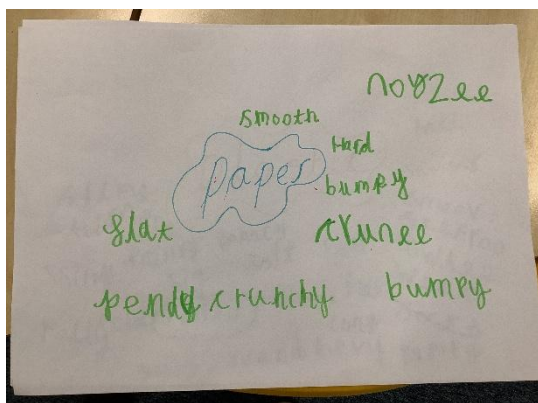
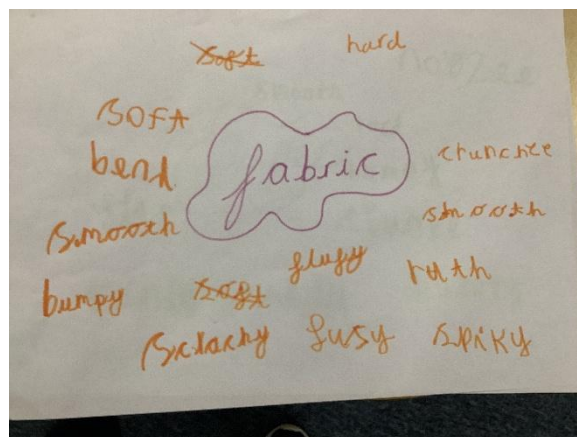
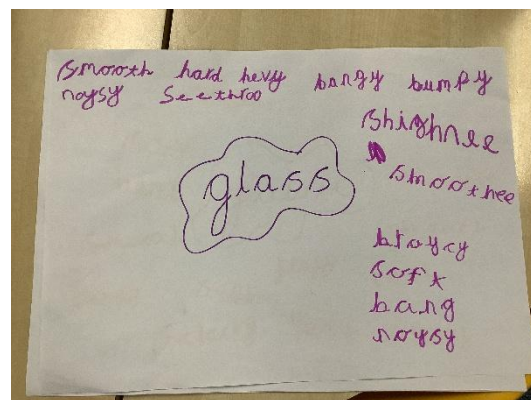
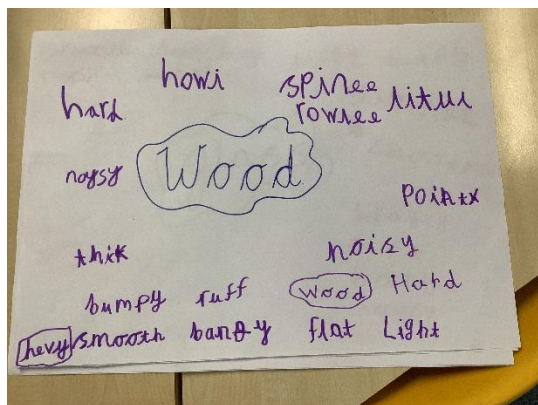
This discussion led us to talk about the different materials used to make things that we can see around us and learned that these things are called objects. We talked about the materials; metal, wood, glass, plastic, cardboard, paper and fabric. Then explored different objects and discussed in groups which material we thought the object was made from. We worked together to match the material to the correct label.



We then talked about the importance of recycling materials and how we recycle at home and school. We looked at different objects made from different materials and sorted them into their own recycling categories.



The following lesson we learned about the properties of materials. We recapped our learning on senses, thinking about what each sense does and some of the vocabulary we developed when exploring each sense i.e. sense of touch - things can feel smooth, rough etc. We then explored a selection of materials to describe their simple properties and recorded these under each material heading.



Once we had learned about different materials we thought again about our question: What is the best material for an umbrella? We linked this question to the learning we were doing in our English lessons when reading the story, The King's Pants and our History lessons when learning about the monarchy and King Charles III.

King Charles problem

Oh no! It is raining and the king is going to get wet.

What do you think you could do to help?



Solving Ted's Problem

To help solve The kings problem, we need to find a waterproof material to help keep him dry.




To do this, we can carry out an enquiry called a comparative test. A comparative test is when you test different things and compare them.

Our enquiry question will be:

Which material will be best for an umbrella?

I am going to test paper (kitchen roll), fabric and plastic (cling film). Which materials will you test?

We can test different materials to find out whether they are waterproof or not. This will tell us which material might be best to make an umbrella..



We decided to answer this question we would need to carry out some investigations.

We carried out two experiments. One to test which materials are waterproof and another to test which materials are absorbent.

We first made a prediction then tested a selection of materials, finally recording our results and choosing which material would be best for an umbrella and why.



Name of Material	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> = yes	<input type="checkbox"/> = no
Paper		X
Plastic	✓	
Yogh		X

Which material is best for the Kings umbrella?
Plastic

Name of Material	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> = yes	<input type="checkbox"/> = no
Paper		X
Plastic	✓	
Yogh		X

Which material is best for the Kings umbrella?
Plastic