

# 14. Characteristics of Objects and Properties of Materials

**Classroom Activity:** Use the senses to recognize materials, and identify properties of the materials that are important for their purpose and function.

**Grade:** 2

**Strand(s):** Understanding Matter and Energy

This task addresses the following overall expectations:

- investigate the properties of and interactions among liquids and solids;
- demonstrate an understanding of the properties of liquids and solids.

and the following specific expectations:

- follow established safety procedures during science and technology investigations;
- investigate the properties of liquids;
- use appropriate science and technology vocabulary, including clear, opaque, runny, hard, greasy, and granular, in oral and written communication;
- use a variety of forms (e.g., oral, written, graphic, multimedia) to communicate with different audiences and for a variety of purposes;
- describe the properties of solids and liquids;
- identify conditions in which the states of liquids and solids remain constant and conditions that can cause their states to change.

## Assessment Categories:

- Knowledge and Understanding
- Communication

**Type of Activity:** Classroom

**Preparation:** (approx. 30 minutes)

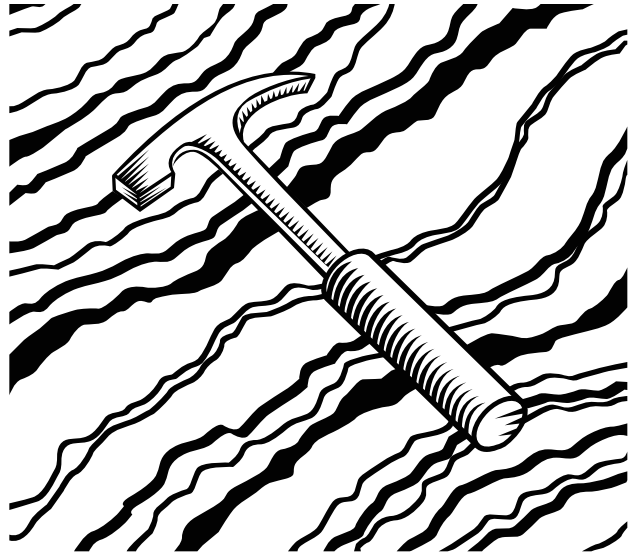
Obtain samples of building materials: brick, wood, gypsum board, styrofoam insulation, polyethylene sheeting etc.

## Materials and Resources for Teachers:

samples of building materials:

brick

wood



gypsum board

styrofoam insulation

polyethylene sheeting

## Materials and Resources for Students:

No additional materials required

## Activity Description:

Show the different types of building materials to the students and allow them to handle them.

As a class, discuss how they:

- look
- feel
- smell

## Describe the use of the materials.

As a class identify the properties of the materials that are important for their purpose and function.

Summarize the information on the blackboard or a chart.

## Tips:

- Keep the sample sizes relatively small.