## 3C CHARACTERISTICS OF MATERIALS

## **Glossary**

absorbent – a material that is able to take in and hold liquid

non-absorbent or waterproof – does not hold liquid

fabric - manufactured cloth made of fibres sometimes referred to as "material"

**flexible** – able to bend easily without breaking **rigid** – does not bend easily

**group** – materials can be grouped according to common properties e.g. metals, plastics, fibres, wood etc.

manufactured – when a raw material such as wood is changed into a new material e.g. paper

**opaque** – the property of a material that blocks the light

property - a characteristic of a material e.g. hard, soft, bendy, shiny etc.

transparent – lets light through e.g. glass

What does it look like? Is it **opaque**? Is it transparent?



What does it **fee!** like?





Is it **heavy**? Is it **light**?

Compared to what?







wood



fibres

stone (including glass)







plastic



**Test** it!

Is it **hard**?

Is it **soft**?

Is it **strong**?

Is it **rigid**? Is it flexible? Will it

break? Is it **stretchy**?

Can you **squash** 





Is it waterproof? Is it **absorbent**? Is it **magnetic**?



Does it conduct electricity?

