

Y1 Sorting and Grouping Materials

KS1 Y1 Science · Follows the national curriculum

Name _____ Class _____ Date _____

1. Worked example

Sort into 'hard' and 'soft': stone, cotton wool, metal key, sponge.

Step 1 · Press each one gently

Stone and key don't squash; cotton wool and sponge do

Step 2 · Put them in two groups

Hard: stone, key. Soft: cotton wool, sponge

Answer: Hard: stone, metal key. Soft: cotton wool, sponge

Check: Every object goes in one group or the other — none left out.

2. Now try one with the steps

Can you sort the same objects in a different way?

Step 1 · Choose a new rule

Step 2 · Sort again

Answer:

3. Practice

Have a go at each one. There is space underneath to work it out.

1. Which group does a pebble go in: hard or soft?

2. Which group does a pillow go in: hard or soft?

3. Which group does a new coin go in: shiny or dull?

4. Which group does a sock go in: bendy or stiff?

5. Which soaks up water: a paper towel or a plastic cup?

6. Sort into 'see-through' and 'not see-through': window, door, clear plastic bottle, book.

7. Name one material that would go in a 'waterproof' group.

8. What do we call the reason we use to sort things into groups?

9. In a water test, the paper towel soaked up 9 drops and the fabric soaked up 6. How many more drops did the paper towel soak up?

10. Tom sorted 12 objects. 5 were hard. How many were soft?

11. With two hoops, 'hard' and 'shiny', where does a glass marble go?

12. With two hoops, 'hard' and 'shiny', where does a woolly sock go?

13. Why might you get different groups if you sort the same objects twice?

4. Before you hand it in

Sorting by colour or object type when asked to sort by a property.

Say the rule out loud before you sort.

Leaving objects out because they 'don't fit'.

If it isn't hard, it goes in 'not hard' (soft).

Thinking an object can only ever be in one group.

Use overlapping hoops when an object fits both.

Guessing instead of testing.

Test each object — press it, bend it, drip water — then sort.