



5-7



Looking at packaging

We use packaging to keep things clean and fresh while they move between the factory, the shop and our homes.

There are lots of different types of packaging – just look in your kitchen cupboards and fridge! Packaging is made out of the following materials:

- Glass – bottles and jars
- Aluminium – drinks cans and foil
- Steel – food tins and drinks cans
- Plastic – plastic bags, plastic film, drinks bottles, yoghurt pots
- Paper – boxes for frozen food, toy boxes
- Wood – fruit crates
- Other – includes cork, ceramics and rubber



Let's look at some in more detail...

What you need

Three different kinds of packaging from the list above, magnets, weighing scales, and a bowl of water.



What to do

Look at each type of packaging to compare properties. Write your findings in the tables below.

The packaging I looked at was...
What was it made of?
Did the magnet stick to it?
How much did it weigh?
Did it float in water?

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Discussion

1. Why do we use different materials for packaging?
2. Could you recycle all or part of the packaging?