

Lesson Plan

Lesson 1: What are textiles and how are they made?

Year Group: 3-6

National Curriculum links:

Design

1) Select from and use a wide range of materials and components, including textiles.

Science

1) Identify and name a variety of everyday materials, including fabric.

2) Distinguish between natural and man-made materials.

Summary:

In this lesson, children will explore where clothes come from and learn that different materials are used to make them. They will discover that some materials come from nature—like cotton from plants and wool from animals—while others are made in factories such as polyester. Through hands-on activities and discussion, children will begin to understand the journey of clothing from raw material to something they wear.

Prior knowledge required:

- What a material is
- Awareness that things can come from nature (plants, animals)
- Some experience with sorting or categorising objects

Learning objective: To understand what textiles are and how they are made from different types of fibres.

Success criteria:

- I can identify examples of natural and synthetic fibres.
- I can describe the basic process of how textiles are made (from fibre to fabric).
- I can explain one environmental impact of textile production.

Prepare before the lesson:

Mini whiteboards and whiteboard pens.

Resources for optional extension activities (see PPT).

Lesson outline**Slide 4: Vocabulary**

Explicitly teach children the vocabulary words using the definitions in the PPT notes.

Slide 5: Vocabulary task

Give 2 minutes for children to complete the blank spaces. See PPT notes for answers.

Slide 7-9: Natural vs Synthetic textiles

Teach children about natural and synthetic textiles then check for understanding.

Slide 10-14: Natural textiles

Children learn about 3 natural textiles- where they come from and how they are turned into clothing

Slide 15-18: Synthetic textiles

Children learn how crude oil is turned into polyester, used for clothing

Slide 20-23: Positives and negatives for synthetic and natural textiles

Children learn about the pros and cons of each material

Slide 25-26: Four steps to look after the materials we buy**Slide 27: Discussion points (see PPT notes)****Slide 28-30: Optional extension activities**