



Plastic and paper

Plastics and paper are two materials that have to be made in a factory.



Plastic beach ball

Plastics are made from oil. Oil is a black treacly liquid made of many substances mixed together. The oil is boiled and the substances separated. The one that will become a plastic material is made into small chips.

The chips are taken to another factory where they are heated until they melt. Then they are stretched into sheets, made into blocks, pressed into the shape of bags, bottles, bins, traffic cones and many other useful things.

Plastic building blocks



Plastic traffic cone

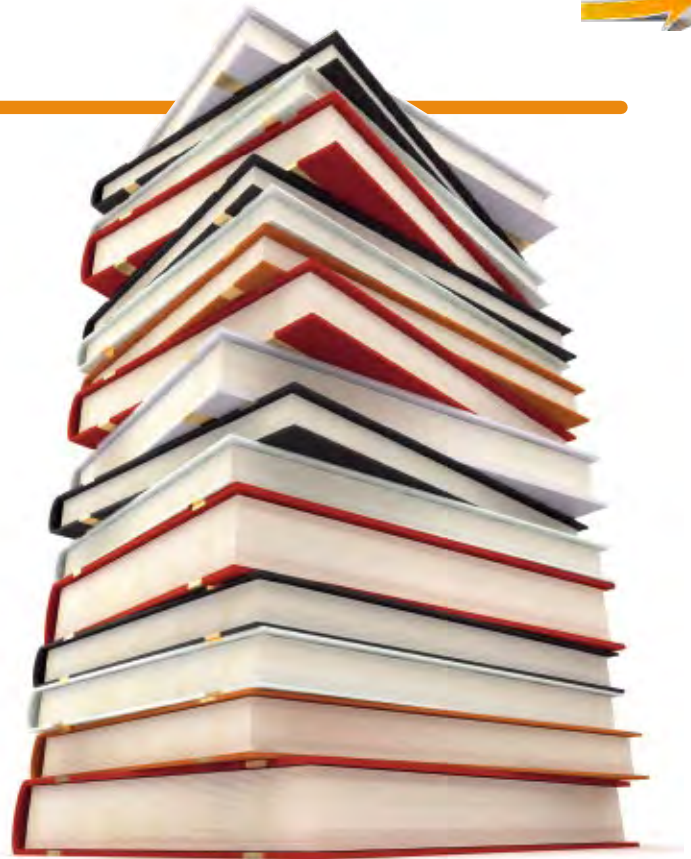


Recycle bin with plastic bag and plastic bottles



Wood can be used to make paper. First it is cut up into tiny pieces. Then it is put into a huge tub with hot water and the wood fibres separate out. The water also takes away the brown colour, and leaves the fibres white. The fibres are then pressed into sheets and dried.

The paper for books starts out on long rolls. Then it is printed, and finally cut up into pages and bound together.



Books begin as logs.



**Can you see any plastics and paper around you?
What are they used for?**