**Making Plastic**

**Key Stage Two**

**NC references**

**KS2 Science**

**Working scientifically**

* reporting and presenting findings from enquiries

**KS2 Materials**

* explain that some changes result in the formation of new materials

**Learning objectives**

To describe in simple terms how plastic is made, understanding that it involves irreversible chemical changes.

**Teaching ideas**

Question: Is it OK to throw plastic away?

**Explore**

Look at a range of plastic objects.

Where do they come from and how are they made? Are they all made from the same materials?

Children could make and record predictions.

Discuss what happens to the plastic items when we have finished with them.

**Order**

Read and order the process for making plastic.

**Discuss**

What surprises the children about the manufacture of plastic?

Is the process reversible? Why not?

How are so many different plastics made? (Different chemicals and processes are used)

Return to the original question: Is it OK to throw plastic away?

**Resources**

*Making Plastic* Resource

**Next steps**

Compare this manufacturing process with others such as glass, paper etc.

Link to litter sort – how much plastic is used and/or thrown away at school? Could it be reduced?

Research: What is oil made from and can we replace it?