

**BUILDING A BETTER WORLD: Three Little Pigs and the Recycled Houses!****TEACHER'S NOTES****KS2 | Sustainability Activity****Introduction**

This session is delivered along with the presentation featuring 'The Three Little Pigs and the Recycled Houses'. This classic children's story is used to introduce different building materials, and an exploration of where materials can be sourced from, how they can be used, and what they can become after use. Your students are invited to develop their own creative response to this story and the design challenges presented.

**Aim**

To introduce students to various building materials and sustainability, inviting a creative reflection of the built world around us.

**Activity**

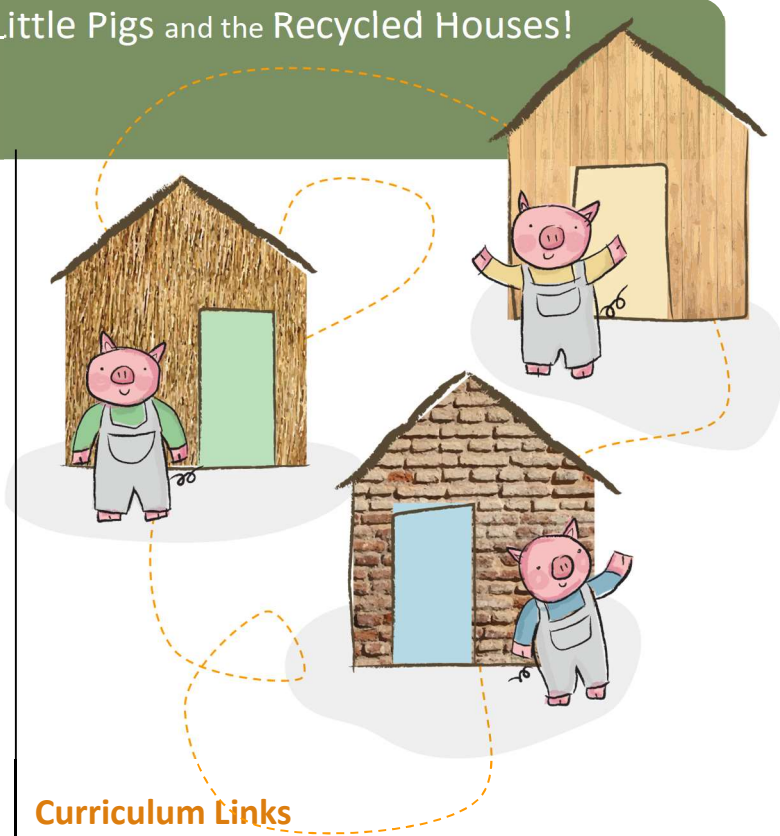
In this activity students work independently or in pairs. Each student is provided with an activity sheet to guide their story. The exact output (e.g. creative writing, drawing, collage or model making) can be adapted to suit your classroom resources, curriculum or students' needs.

**Outputs & Outcomes****Outputs**

A drawing, story, collage, 3D model or performance demonstrating ideas for recycling building materials in creative ways.

**Outcomes**

- Understanding of where materials come from, how they become building materials and what happens to them at the end of a building's life.
- Awareness of the impact of building with different materials.
- Greater confidence in recognising different materials and why / if they have been used.
- Raised confidence from projecting their ideas and hopes for the future.

**Curriculum Links****English:**

- Comprehension- retrieve, record, and present information from non-fiction.

**Art:**

- Improve their mastery of art and design techniques, including drawing, painting, and sculpture with a range of materials.
- Great artists, architects, and designers in history.

**Design and Technology:**

- Explore and evaluate a range of existing products.
- Understand how key events and individuals in design and technology have helped shape the world.
- Select from and use a wide range of materials, including construction materials, textiles, and ingredients, according to their functional properties and aesthetic qualities.



## Key Terms

- **Architects** – Architects are people who design buildings. They work with lots of people like engineers, urban planners, landscape designers, local communities and many more to make the built environment.
- **Built Environment** – The built environment is all the human-made spaces, places, and buildings we inhabit. It includes buildings like schools, houses, libraries, shopping centres etc, as well as roads, railways lines, bus stations and all transportation, it also includes energy networks and water supply, and all public spaces.
- **Engineers** – Engineers are people who design and build complex products, machines, systems or structures like buildings or bridges.
- **Insulation** – Building insulation is wrapped all around buildings. It can be a variety of materials that stops heat, sound, fire or electricity from transferring from inside to outside or outside to inside. This helps to keep buildings warm, quiet, safe, and reduces wasting energy.
- **Material Properties** – All materials have properties. It is something that we can measure, see or feel about the material. Examples of properties are; hardness, softness, durability or weight. Different materials are good for different jobs based on their properties.
- **Mud Bricks** – This term illustrates how all bricks are made from materials from the ground; earth, mud, clay etc and dried in the sun or a kiln. Mud bricks are one of the oldest building materials, dating back thousands of years, and used all over the world.
- **Raw Materials** – Everything around us starts as a 'raw material'. These raw materials can come from different places; from the ground (such as sand, stone, oil and metal), or from living things (such as plants, trees and animals) or from waste/recycled sources (materials like plastic and metal are easy and common to recycle).
- **Recycling** – Recycling is the process of turning waste into reusable material.
- **Straw** – Straw is a building material which comes from the stalk of wheat, rye, oat and other types of grain. It is grown in the UK and around the world. Straw can be used in buildings for the structure (as straw bales) or as building insulation (to keep it warm) or as the roof (to keep it dry, see thatched roof).
- **Thatched Roof** – A thatched roof is made from straw or reeds. Thatching is a traditional craft that has been used for thousands of years, all around the world. Thatched roofs can help to keep buildings warm and dry.
- **Timber** – Timber is the term used to describe wood prepared for use in buildings and carpentry.