

Only the best materials

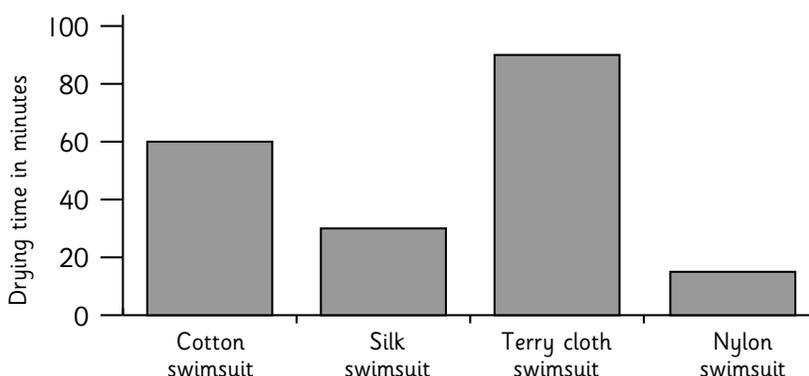


Observations

When you make something, it is important to use materials that are right for the job. You would not make a bicycle out of tissue paper or a book out of metal. The owners of factories that make new things ask scientists to carry out tests to find the best materials to use.

Science activity

A factory owner wanted to know which fabric he should use to make swimsuits that dry quickly. He asked a scientist to do a test. She made four swimsuits of the same size from different materials, then rinsed them in water and left them to dry. Here are her results.

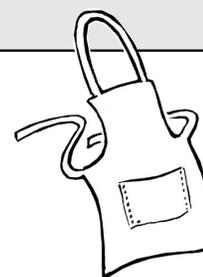


- 1 Which material should the factory owner choose?
- 2 Why is that the best choice?
- 3 Why did the scientist make all the swimsuits the same size?

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Science exploration

Design and conduct an experiment to see which material—cotton, paper, aluminum foil, or vinyl—would be best for making an easy-to-clean painting apron. What parts of your experiment will have to be kept the same?



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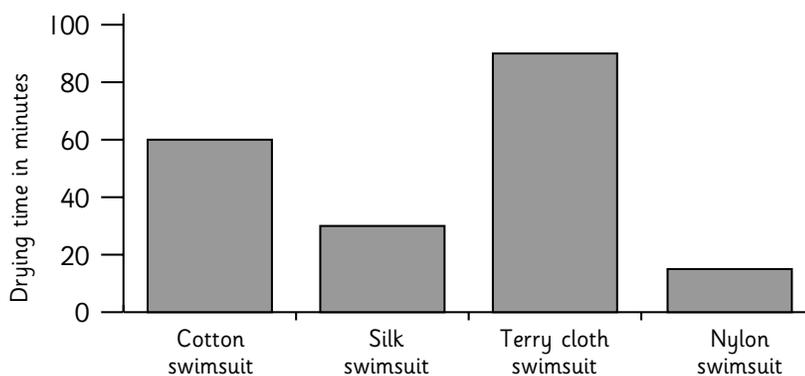


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Science activity

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- 1 Which material should the factory owner choose? *Nylon*.....
- 2 Why is that the best choice? *It dries quickly*.....
- 3 Why did the scientist make all the swimsuits the same size?

To set up a fair test
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Science exploration

This activity further reinforces how materials are used according to their properties. Interpreting information from charts is an important skill to develop. Help the child with the experiment. Use water-based paints. The child should understand that each material tested must be the same size.

