

# What's a Corvette Made Of?

*National Corvette Museum Lesson Plan*

**Key Words:** materials, properties, sorting, describing

**Grade Level:** Primary

**Overview:** A car is made of many different materials... from the rubber in the tires, to the leather of the seats, glass of the windows, fiberglass and metal of the body and much more. Students will touch and feel these parts of a car, learn why different materials are selected for each part and sort the parts of the car by what they are made of.

**Connections to Curriculum:** Science

**Standards:** SC-P-STM-U-1, Students will understand that objects are made of one or more materials and investigating the properties of those materials helps in sorting and describing them. SC-P-STM-S-1, Students will use senses to observe and describe properties of material objects (color, size, shape, texture, flexibility, magnetism). SC-EP-1.1.1, Students will classify material objects by their properties providing evidence to support their classifications. Objects are made of one or more materials such as paper, wood and metal. Objects can be described by the properties of the materials from which they are made. Those properties and measurements of the objects can be used to separate or classify objects or materials.

**Time:** 20-30 minutes

**Materials required:** Sitter car; photos and illustrations of car parts – (WHAT PARTS); bins labeled by type of material, sheets with types of materials listed, pencils.

**Objectives:**

1. Students will learn which parts are made of what materials.
2. Students will be able to sort the parts according to what they are made of.
3. Students will understand why certain parts are made of those materials.

**Procedures:**

1. A completely assembled car will be observed. Instructor will point out various main parts of the car and discuss what those parts are made of and why.
2. Students observe the car hood display, feeling the weight difference between a metal and a fiberglass hood and learn why Corvettes are made of fiberglass.
3. Students are encouraged to touch, feel and discover the parts of the car.

4. After the demonstration students are broken into small groups. Each group is given a selection of photos or illustrations of various car parts.
5. Students place the images of the car parts into the labeled bins, sorting them by what material they are made of. (Each set of images can be numbered for each group.)
6. Students are given a sheet with the materials list. Students write what car parts fall under each category of material.

**Assessment:** Teacher and NCM activity leader check each bin to ensure correct images are in each. Materials lists are also checked for accuracy.

**Extending Lesson:** Students can be given an assortment of magazines and instructed to cut out various man-made products, like appliances, furniture, modes of transportation, etc. Students identify what the products are made of and why.

**Adaptations:** Lower level students can be given a type of material and asked to name or cut out images of items that are composed of that material. Middle level students can focus on simple household items that are composed of one or two primary materials, being asked to list the various materials the item is made of and why those particular materials were used. Upper level students can be provided with images of more complex items that have more than two materials – perhaps a house.

**Related Links:** Diagram of the parts of a Corvette and what company supplies them:

<http://www.corvettemuseum.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/09/SuppliersToThe2010Corvette.jpg>

**Resources:** Download printable flash cards which allow students to sort the cards by what the car part is made of.

[http://corvettemuseum.org/teacher/activities/ncm/WhatCorvetteMadeOf\\_FlashCards.pdf](http://corvettemuseum.org/teacher/activities/ncm/WhatCorvetteMadeOf_FlashCards.pdf)

**Handouts:** Material list

# What's a Corvette Made Of?

## Material List

RUBBER	GLASS
METAL	FIBERGLASS
PLASTIC / VINYL	LEATHER