Nova’s Material Investigation

Learning objective: To identify and describe the properties of everyday materials and explain why they are suitable for specific purposes.

Help Nova the owl sort out her laboratory equipment! Look at the objects below and draw them in the correct spots. Use the word bank to label the properties of each material.

Draw: Create a clear, tidy scene of Nova the owl's science laboratory. Draw a wooden table in the centre. On the table, place: a glass beaker, a metal spoon, a pair of rubber gloves, and a soft cotton cloth. Use clean, simple lines so that pupils can easily add labels with arrows pointing to each item.

Label words: transparent · opaque · waterproof · flexible · rigid · absorbent · durable

Steps:

1. Step 1: Draw a glass beaker for Nova to hold her science potions. Label the material and explain why it is transparent.
2. Step 2: Draw a pair of rubber gloves. Label the property that makes them perfect for keeping Nova’s feathers dry.
3. Step 3: Draw a wooden desk. Why is wood a better choice than paper for a desk? Give one reason.
4. Step 4: Label the metal spoon in your drawing. Is metal rigid or flexible? Explain your answer.

5. Step 5: If Nova spills a potion, would you choose a metal tray or a cloth towel to clean it up? Why?