

Science Information Sheet

WALT: understand what thermal conductors and insulators are.

Thermal Conductors and Insulators

Thermal Conductors

Heat can travel easily through thermal conductors.

Metals are good thermal conductors, as they allow heat to move through them.

Thermal conductors are used to make items that need heat to travel through them, like a pan or a radiator.

Examples of thermal conductors:



pan

Thermal Insulators

Thermal insulators do not let heat travel through them easily.

Some fabrics, wood and plastics are good thermal insulators.

Thermal insulators can keep heat out or in. For example, a vacuum flask stops heat from the air travelling through to the food or drink inside, keeping it cool. A coat stops the heat from your body travelling through to the air outside, keeping you warm.

Examples of thermal insulators:



pan handle

Did you know? Heat always travels from a warmer area to a cooler one.

Your Tasks

Activity One:

Complete the quiz on thermal conductors and insulators to test your knowledge.

Activity Two:

Design a new lunch box — you need to draw a design for a new lunch box and include labels which identify the best material that you can use to keep the food cool on the inside.