



Plastic

RACHEL BLOUNT

TULIP
BOOKS®

Tulip Books Limited

© 2019 Tulip Books Limited

Tulip Books

Suite LP33738

20-22 Wenlock Road

London N1 7GU

Series designed by Jurian Weise

Book designed by Keith Williams, sprout.uk.com

Production by Discovery Books

British Library Cataloguing in Publication Data

A full catalogue record for this book is available from the British Library

Picture Credits: Cover: Shutterstock: 3d_kot; Inside: Shutterstock: 3d_kot; p. 1; Alexey Androsov: p. 16; Big Foot Productions: p. 22br; Paolo Bona: p. 19; Rich Carey: pp. 21, 22bl; ESB Professional: p. 17b; FabrikaSimf: p. 8; FamVeld: p. 14; Hasrullinizam: p. 4l; Hurst Photo: p. 20t; Iliart: p. 3; Dmitry Kalinovsky: p. 10l; Kintbowornphatnon: p. 18t; Pavel Kubarkov: p. 22t; Lulila Lysa: p. 17t; Milka-Kotka: p. 10; Monkey Business Images: p. 13; Monticello: p. 4t; Sergey Novikov: p. 18b; Martin Christopher Parker: p. 20b; David Peterlin: p. 5t; Petroleum man: pp. 6-7; Alexander Raths: p. 12; S_Photo: p. 15; Sapopov: p. 9; TravnikovStudio: p. 5l; Tigravith: p. 7t; Vldkont: p. 15t; Wavebreakmedia: p. 5b; Whiteaster: p. 5t; Wikimedia Commons: © Tomas Castelazo, www.tomascastelazo.com (<http://www.tomascastelazo.com>): p. 11; Fibermesh007: p. 11l.

All the internet addresses (URLs) given in this book were valid at the time of going to press. However, due to the dynamic nature of the internet, some addresses may have changed, or sites may have changed or ceased to exist since publication. While the author and publisher regret any inconvenience this may cause readers, no responsibility for such changes can be accepted by either the author or the publisher.

Printed by: To come

ISBN 978-1-78388-145-1

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system or transmitted, in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording or otherwise, without the prior permission of Tulip Books Limited.

Contents

What are plastics?	4
Where does plastic come from?	6
How is plastic made?	8
Moulding and shaping	10
Hard and soft plastics	12
Useful plastic	14
Plastics in our world	16
Plastic clothing	18
Recycling plastics	20
Plastics fact file	22
Glossary	23
Further information	24
Index	24

What are plastics?

Plastic is a very useful material. It can be turned into many different things. It is **waterproof** and can be made in lots of different colours. All of these things are made from plastic.

Truck



Toy bricks

Hoops

Skittles

Most plastics are made from **chemicals** in factories. Plastics are also called **polymers**.

Traffic cone



Ball



Snorkel



Goggles

Plastic bag



Bottle

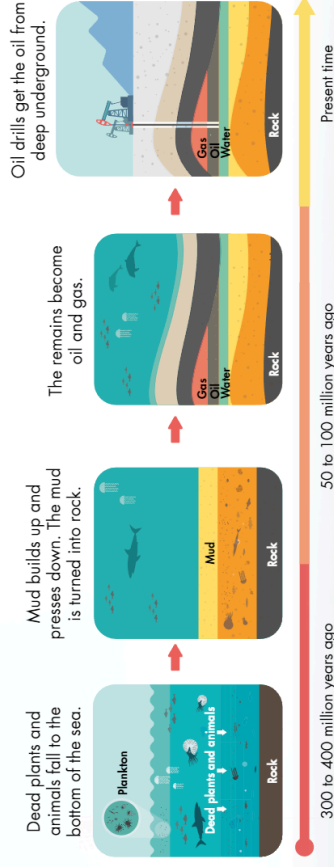


Where does plastic come from?

Most of the chemicals used to make plastic come from oil or **natural gas**. These are **resources** that are found underground.

Huge drills are used to get the oil and gas out of the ground. Oil is then transported to **refineries** by huge tankers, boats or pipelines.

Oil and gas resources



FAST FACT

Plants and animals that died millions of years ago were buried under layers of soil, mud and sand. Over time, they were turned into oil and gas.