Pre-lesson preparation, materials and equipment

The LEARN ABOUT WOOL factsheets and videos listed below provide ample background information to carry out this lesson and answer a range of questions posed by students.

A range of additional resources is available in the LEARN ABOUT WOOL online resource library.

Useful resources:

LEARN ABOUT WOOL factsheets

- What is wool?
- How wool grows
- Inside a wool fibre
- Properties of wool
- Wool — the natural fibre
- Different types of wool fabrics

Video

- Sam the Lamb — What is wool?

Useful links

- Enviro-stories library
- Bitesize UK | Design and technology fibres

Useful books

- The Story of Wool book (Kondinin Group)
- It's time to sleep you crazy sheep, Alison Ritchie
- One sneaky sheep, (A touch-and-feel fluffy tale)
- Pete the Sheep, Jackie French and Bruce Whatley
- Click go the shears, illustrated by Charlotte Lance

Materials and equipment

- AWI LEARN ABOUT WOOL kit fabric and fibre samples
- A range of objects made from various materials (e.g. wood, metal, polystyrene, plastic, glass, rubber, cotton, wool, lycra)
- Cardboard boxes to hold objects so students cannot see the objects while they feel them.
- A range of clothing and furnishings made from wool, cotton and other fibres (socks, blankets, jumpers, t-shirts, pyjamas, sportswear, baby clothes etc). Try to include a range of wool items ranging from worsted-spun woven and knitted (e.g. T-shirts and tailored pants or skirts) through to woollen-spun woven and knitted fabrics (e.g. heavy winter coats and jumpers — see the Different types of wool fabrics factsheet for ideas).
- Class science journal
- Student worksheet — Properties of materials