



A TESTING TIME



Crest Award Project - 62

BRIEF BACKGROUND

Materials need to have unique properties depending on the use to which they are put. Imagine a meat-knife that would not hold an edge or a dining fork that bends in use.

Other examples would be lightbulb filaments that continually burnt-out or floor boards that broke when someone heavy walked across the floor.

All of the materials used in these circumstances needed testing for fitness of purpose, as do many other materials.



MAKE SURE YOU SEEK ADVICE FROM YOUR TEACHER REGARDING SAFETY IMPLICATIONS ONCE YOU HAVE DESIGNED YOUR TESTS!!

YOUR TASK

For your CREST investigation we would like you to:

1. Investigate a property of a material in a particular context:
2. For this task you will need to first decide on a product to investigate. Your teacher will set you all a context within which you will work. Then contact or visit a company or educational establishment which could help you with information or which has testing facilities. The web may help.
3. Devise a test for your particular situation, your teacher may help you here. Alternatively arrange for testing at a laboratory or testing station outside school.
4. Carefully record the results of your investigations/tests and produce an illustrated report showing your scientific results (you could include photographs from a digital camera). Discuss -maybe by email- your report either with someone who has assisted you, other than your teacher, or with your fellow pupils.
5. Complete a CREST profile to the satisfaction of your teacher.

