



UniServe Science Are You Getting Enough Fibre?

Discovering Natural Fibres – A resource
for secondary science teachers

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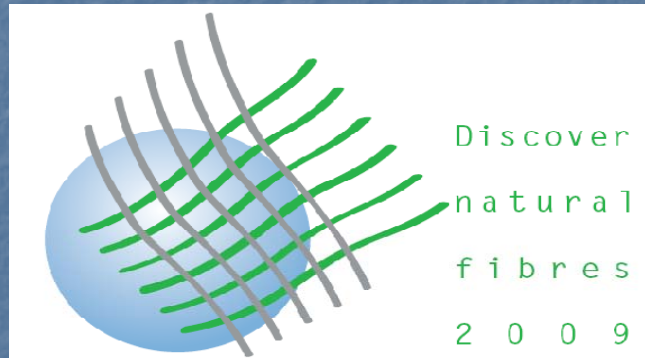
The Resource Overview

- is found at
http://science.uniserve.edu.au/school/curric/stage4_5/fibres/index.html
- Syllabus references are found at
- http://science.uniserve.edu.au/school/curric/stage4_5/fibres/scope.html



2009 International Year of Natural Fibres

<http://www.naturalfibres2009.org/en/index.html>



Natural fibres...

- You may guess at the more usual examples – paper, cotton, wool... (did you know fragments of cotton articles have been found from 5000BC in Mexico and Pakistan?)



But had you thought of ...

- - jute, silk, hemp, alpaca sisal...?
- Fifteen natural fibres are covered in detail on this website



Select abaca...

- Also known as manilla hemp.
- It is so strong that it is now used instead of fibre glass in Mercedes Benz cars as it uses 60% less energy in its production.
- Try testing the strength of easily obtained fibres such as cotton and wool



Natural Fibres are...

- Healthy
- Responsible and Sustainable
- High-tech.
- Fashionable



Make Paper ...

- The Botanical Book Project site from Queensland shows how members have experimented with a variety of different plants to produce paper.
<http://www.redhotfibre.com.au/botbook.htm>
- Design an experiment using local plants to produce a sheet of paper suitable to write on.



Join a Global Online Research Project ...

- Create an avatar to find the answer to key questions.
- The website from 'ozprojects' <http://www.ozprojects.edu.au/course/view.php?id=57> provides a project using interactive whiteboard technology and embeds ICT. It aims to raise awareness about natural fibres by posing the following questions:



Questions...

- What are natural fibres?
- How are they produced and what are they used for?
- Why is the production of natural fibres important to developing countries?
- What are the advantages of natural fibres over synthetics?



Time to browse ...

Thank you!

