

FANTASTIC PLASTIC

This booklet is part of the 'Innovations in Practical Work' series published by the Gatsby Science Enhancement Programme (SEP).

USEFUL LINKS

[Practical Chemistry](#)

This website contains a growing collection of chemistry experiments, including a useful section on [polymers](#).

[Royal Society of Chemistry](#)

There is a great deal of useful and accessible information on this site, including experimental [instructions on making nylon](#).

[Wikipedia](#)

There are a number of useful pages with general ideas and principles about the science of [polymers](#) and [polymerisation](#). There are also pages with information about specific types of polymers including [electroactive polymers](#), [pH-sensitive polymers](#), [temperature-responsive polymers](#), [conductive polymers](#), [organic light-emitting diodes](#), [hydrogen fuel cells](#) and [rubber](#).

[Science is fun in the lab of Shkhashiri](#)

This website of the University of Wisconsin-Madison has a 'Chemical of the Week' – the section on [polymers](#) gives a good explanation of the various common polymers with details of recycling.

[BBC Bitesize](#)

There are a number of sections that are relatively low level but are good for basic information including [Polymers and ethanol from oil \(AQA\)](#), [Making polymers \(OCR Gateway\)](#) and [Designer polymers \(OCR Gateway\)](#).

[Plastics Europe](#)

This is the organization that represents the plastics industry in Europe.

[The Worshipful Company of Horners](#)

This is the organization that represents plastics manufacturers in the UK.