

Cans

Steel cans are made from iron ore, only require a small amount of energy to produce and are totally recyclable. They have a thin layer of tin on the inside, therefore they are sometimes called tins.

Aluminium is one of the most abundant metals on our planet. It is extracted from an ore called bauxite, usually found in tropical parts of the world.

Recycling cans saves energy and preserves the Earth's resources of bauxite and iron ore. Aluminium and steel cans can be used to make items such as cutlery, cars and even aeroplanes. You can recycle your cans through your household collections or at recycling centres.

The two types of cans need to be separated when they are sorted at the recycling facility, do you know how they separate aluminium cans from steel ones?

Magnets attract items which contain iron, nickel and steel, steel cans therefore are attracted to magnets, aluminium cans are not.

Activity:

Collect different types of cans and tins (make sure they're clean). Grab a magnet and see which types of cans and tins are attracted.

