

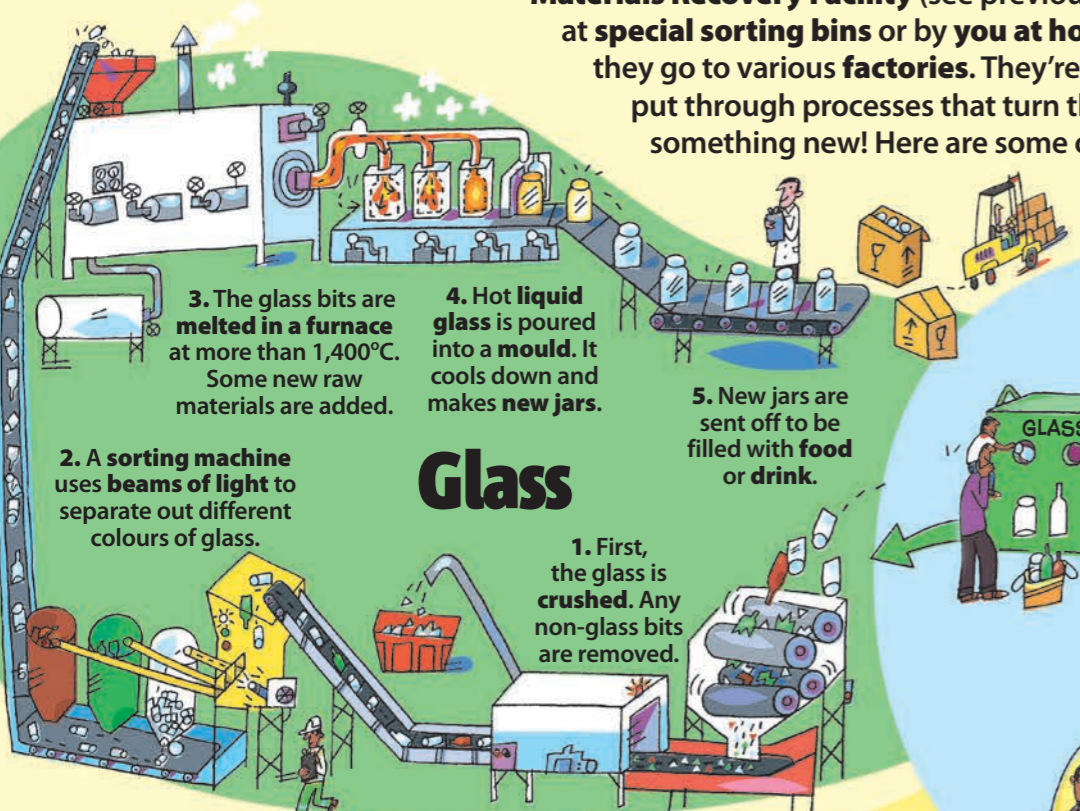
FROM OLD TO NEW...

Want to know what becomes of our empty baked-bean tins, rinsed-out jam jars, drained juice bottles and old birthday cards? Follow this diagram to find out!

Once different materials have been separated at a **Materials Recovery Facility** (see previous page), at **special sorting bins** or by you at home, they go to various **factories**. They're then put through processes that turn them into something new! Here are some of them...

Start here!

Glass



2. A sorting machine uses beams of light to separate out different colours of glass.

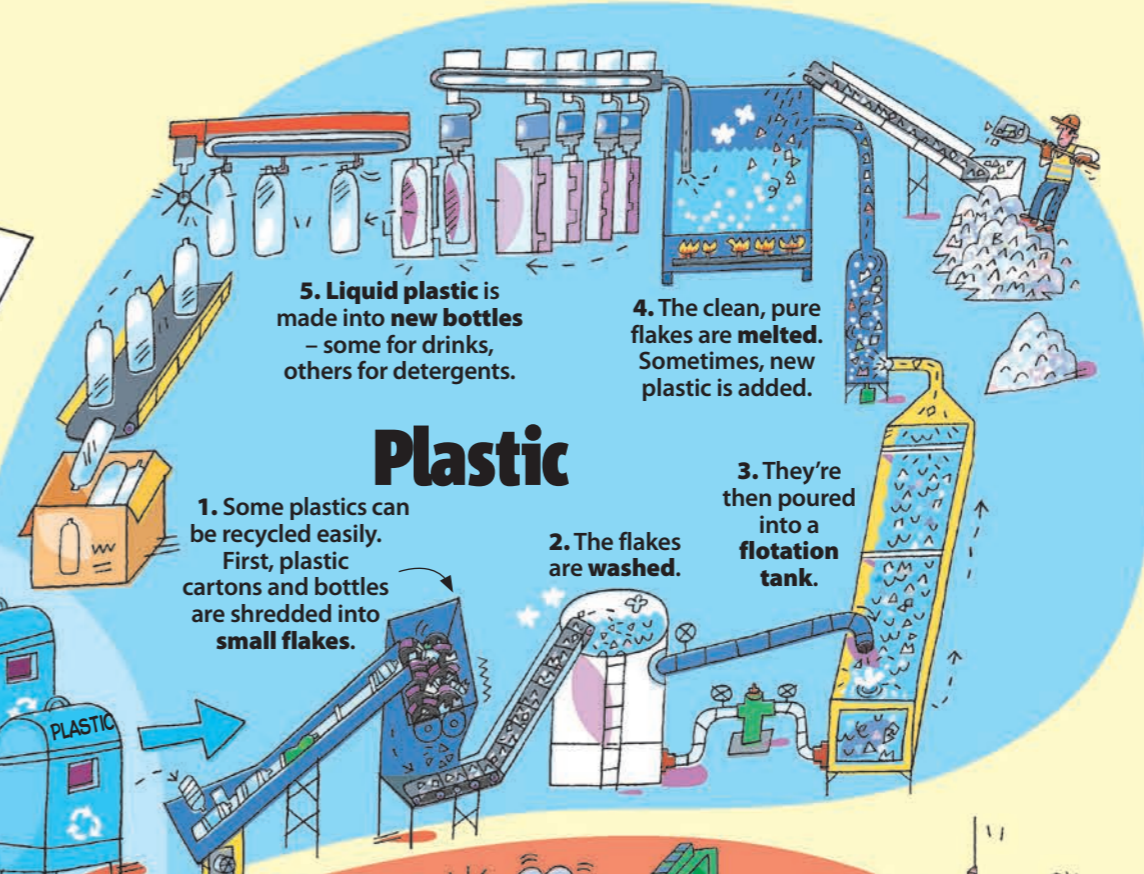
3. The glass bits are melted in a furnace at more than 1,400°C. Some new raw materials are added.

4. Hot liquid glass is poured into a mould. It cools down and makes new jars.

5. New jars are sent off to be filled with food or drink.

1. First, the glass is crushed. Any non-glass bits are removed.

Plastic



1. Some plastics can be recycled easily. First, plastic cartons and bottles are shredded into small flakes.

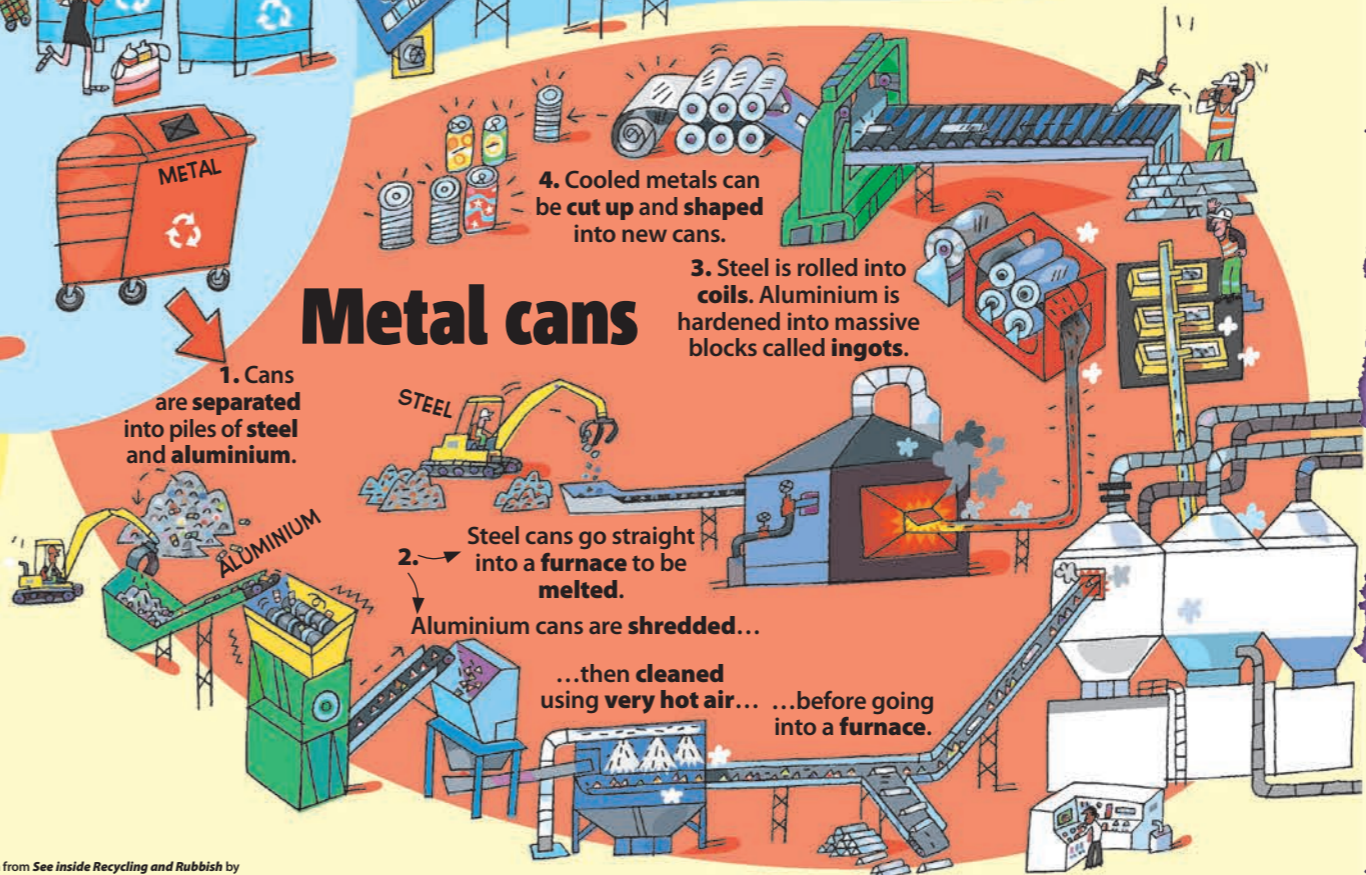
2. The flakes are washed.

3. They're then poured into a flotation tank.

4. The clean, pure flakes are melted. Sometimes, new plastic is added.

5. Liquid plastic is made into new bottles – some for drinks, others for detergents.

Metal cans



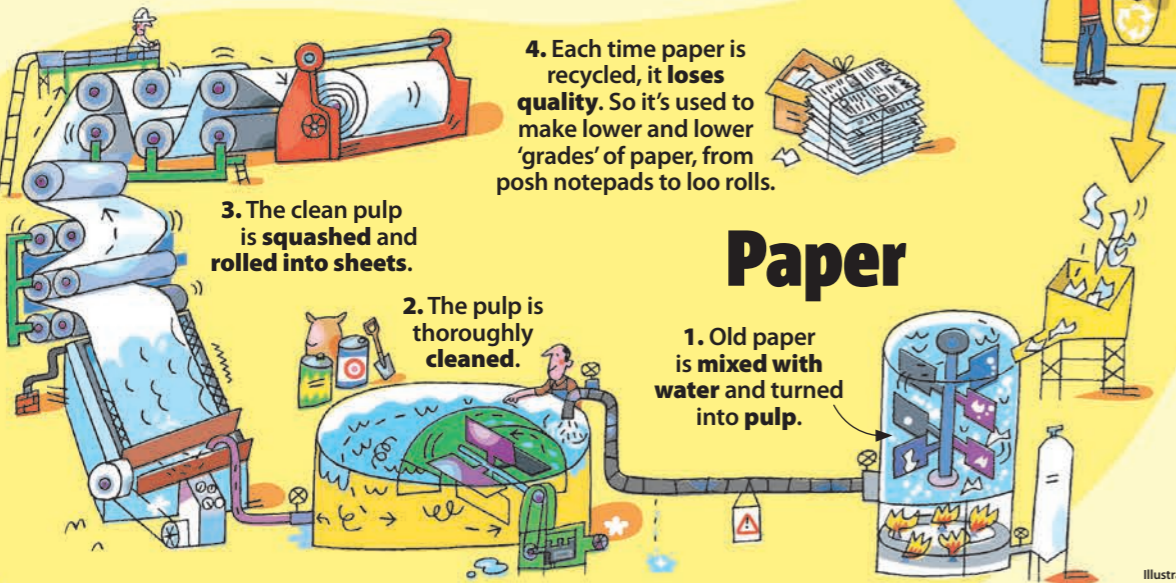
1. Cans are separated into piles of steel and aluminium.

2. Steel cans go straight into a furnace to be melted. Aluminium cans are shredded... ..then cleaned using very hot air... ..before going into a furnace.

3. Steel is rolled into coils. Aluminium is hardened into massive blocks called ingots.

4. Cooled metals can be cut up and shaped into new cans.

Paper



1. Old paper is mixed with water and turned into pulp.

2. The pulp is thoroughly cleaned.

3. The clean pulp is squashed and rolled into sheets.

4. Each time paper is recycled, it loses quality. So it's used to make lower and lower 'grades' of paper, from posh notepads to loo rolls.

IT MAKES WHAT?!!



Jam jar is magicked into... **INSULATION**

Some recycled glass is used to make glass wool which keeps buildings nice and warm, saving even more energy!



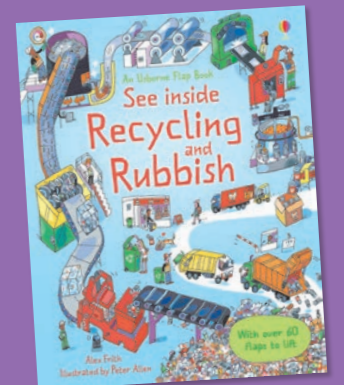
Milk carton becomes a... **SLEEPING BAG!**

There's every chance your plastic milk carton could have been a plastic milk carton already – 30 times or even more. But they're also turned into bin bags, CD cases and, unbelievably, the filling for sleeping bags!



Can of pop transforms into a... **FAMILY CAR!**

Yup, incredibly, after reprocessing, your tins and cans may become cars or even ships!



You can find out loads more cool stuff about our waste in *See inside Recycling and Rubbish* from Usborne!

Find out more at usborne.com