# 30 minute workshop: Sustainable Research

Julia Flood, CSM Library January 19th 14:00



## Welcome

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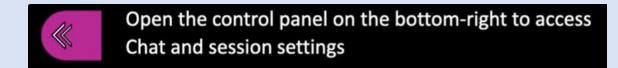
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https://arts.ac.libguides.com/Materials

## Housekeeping / Netiquette

Check you can use the chat function:



I will be recording the main room presentation and group work feedback for my PGCert project.



## **Session outcomes**

- Starting your research with an object as the central focus
- What an object can tell you about itself
- Strategies for investigating how sustainable it is or seeking alternatives
- Understanding the life-span of an object

Please either give or deny consent the use of your data in the ethical enquiry form.

# The object or material as central focus

- We will focus on object- and artefact- based literacy (Appleton, 2017:21)
- Object-based learning: uses the object or material as a primary source. Our secondary sources are the published articles and information written about them.

Take a minute to choose an object!

# What can your object tell you about itself?



Keywords

Mass-produced
Cheap
Dye
Rubber? Plastics?
Where is it produced?

Rubber balls in a glass jar, by David King. Copyright: Dorling Kindersley.



Jot down your object name and initial questions below.

## The UN's 3 Pillars Framework:

We can research and relate sustainability to our practice or chosen object using this framework:

#### Social

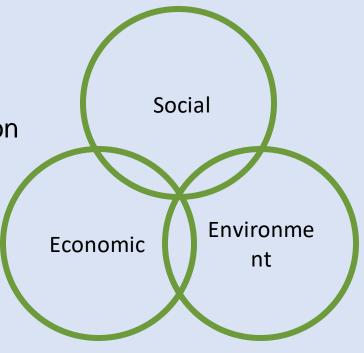
People, Equal opportunity, Community, Fair living standards, Education for all, Cultural habits and preservation

#### Economic

Can (and should) a business be profitable and sustainable?

#### Environment

Responsible use of natural resources, Pollution prevention, Biodiversity, Soil regeneration



## Materials and Products Sustainability Criteria:

Identifying materials that fit with the sustainable criteria in the materials collections

We have chosen six criteria as a framework of questions to begin to be critical of and understand the sustainability of the materials in the collection. These are just a starting point. There are a lot of factors in deciding how 'sustainable' something is.

Look out for our green labels to get you started and do some research about your material or manufacturer to find out more.







Sustainable materials criteria



#### Biodegradable:

The item will completely break down and return to nature (i.e., decompose into elements found in nature) within a reasonably short period of time after customary disposal. usually within one year after customary disposal. Items that are customarily disposed in landfills, incinerators, and recycling facilities are deceptive because these locations do not present conditions in which complete decomposition will occur within one year.



#### Recycled Content:

Recycled Content: Comprised of pre-consumer and/or post-consumer material that is used as a raw material in the manufacture of products.

- Pre-Consumer Recycled Content: Material diverted from the waste stream during a manufacturing process. Excluded is reutilization of materials such as rework, regrind or scrap generated in a process and capable of being reclaimed with the same process that generated it.
- Post-Consumer Recycled Content: Material generated by households or by commercial, industrial and institutional facilities in their role as end-users of the product which can no longer be used for its intended purpose. This includes returns of material from the distribution chain.



A product or associated component that can be diverted from the waste stream through available recycling infrastructure. These products can be collected, processed and returned to use in the form of raw materials or other products.

# Activity 3: look for your material on one of these databases

Take 5 minutes then come back and tell us what you found



# Taking Your Research Further





# Any questions?



# **Feedback**

