

Useful Machines

Approach: One to one

Level: Year 4 and year 8

Resources: 2 photos of washing machines



Questions/instructions

% responses
y4 y8

Show photograph of old washing machine.

1. Do you know what this is?

Tell me how you think the washing is done in this washing machine.

Prompt if necessary

This is a washing machine that was used more than 50 years ago. The water was heated in here by lighting a fire underneath. Soap was put in the water and the clothes were added later. A large stick was used to stir the clothes. The clothes were lifted out of here with the stick and put in cold water in here. Then the clothes were put through the wringer to squeeze some of the water out of them.

Identified old machine 41 57

Show photograph of new washing machine.

2. Do you know what this is?

Tell me how you think the washing is done in this washing machine.

Prompt if necessary

This is a washing machine that is used today in some peoples homes. The clothes are put in the top, some soap is put in the machine, several buttons are pressed and the machine washes the clothes. It also spins the clothes around to take some of the water out of them.

Identified new machine 99 100

Lets look at both pictures together.

3. What is different about how the washing is done in these 2 machines?

Prompt if necessary

What is different about the machines?

What is different about how they're used?

Ability to describe differences
in washing procedures

strong 14 35

moderate 64 54

low 22 11

4. Washing machines have changed many times since people used this old washing machine. How have these changes in machines changed people's lives?

Ability to describe effects on people's lives

strong 7 27

moderate 45 51

low 48 22

% responses
y4 y8