Week 1: Timber is the name given to wood from trees. It is a sustainable material because we can replant trees. In we use Britain over 50 million tonnes of timber each year. Only 10% is grown in Britain, so we import 90% of our timber. It is important to only use timber from a supplier who is managing their forests and replanting with new trees as older tress are cut down and harvested. The Forrest Stewardship Council (F.S.C) is a brand you will find on any timber product which has been supplied from a well managed forest.

Week 2: Timber is cut, stripped of its branches and sectioned into lengths by a harvester machine. The logs are collected and transported to a lumber yard to be processed. Timber is used to make planks, manufactured boards, paper and cardboard.

There are two families of trees. These are called hardwoods and softwoods.

Hardwoods are also known as **deciduous trees**. Softwoods are known as **coniferous trees.**

Week 3: Hardwoods have a leaf in the summer and shed these in the autumn. Deciduous trees can take 50-100 years to mature and grow at a slower rate. Examples are ash, willow, birch, oak.

Softwoods have a needles instead of leaves and can grow all of the year. They are a fast growing timber and can be harvested after 30 years. Examples are Yew, pine, spruce, larch.

Week 4:Manufactured Boards are made by changing logs into a variety of forms and then gluing them together to create sheet materials. The reason for doing this process is to produce large, flat sheets of timber that are stronger and more stable than conventional wide boards of softwood and hardwood. This process often uses more of the trees and therefore can be used to produce large boards of timber more economically.
Examples: plywood, MDF, chip board

Week 5: Life cycle assessment of Wood: first of all the trees are planted and then the tree is cut, all branches stripped off then transported mainly by road or train. The tree is de barked where the outer layer of the tree is removed.

If the timber is for construction it is prepared in long lengths. If it is for a manufactured board or for making paper then the tree will be ground into smaller partials. The timber is used and at the end of its life as a product t it can be recycle. Timber can be composted or maybe left in a landfill waste site..

Environmental consequences: when the wood is transported the transport used causes pollution and where the tree is converted into useful sizes will let off harmful fuels and gasses.

Week 6: Key words, what do they mean? 1)Life cycle assessment, 2) deciduous 3)coniferous 4) environment 5) landfill