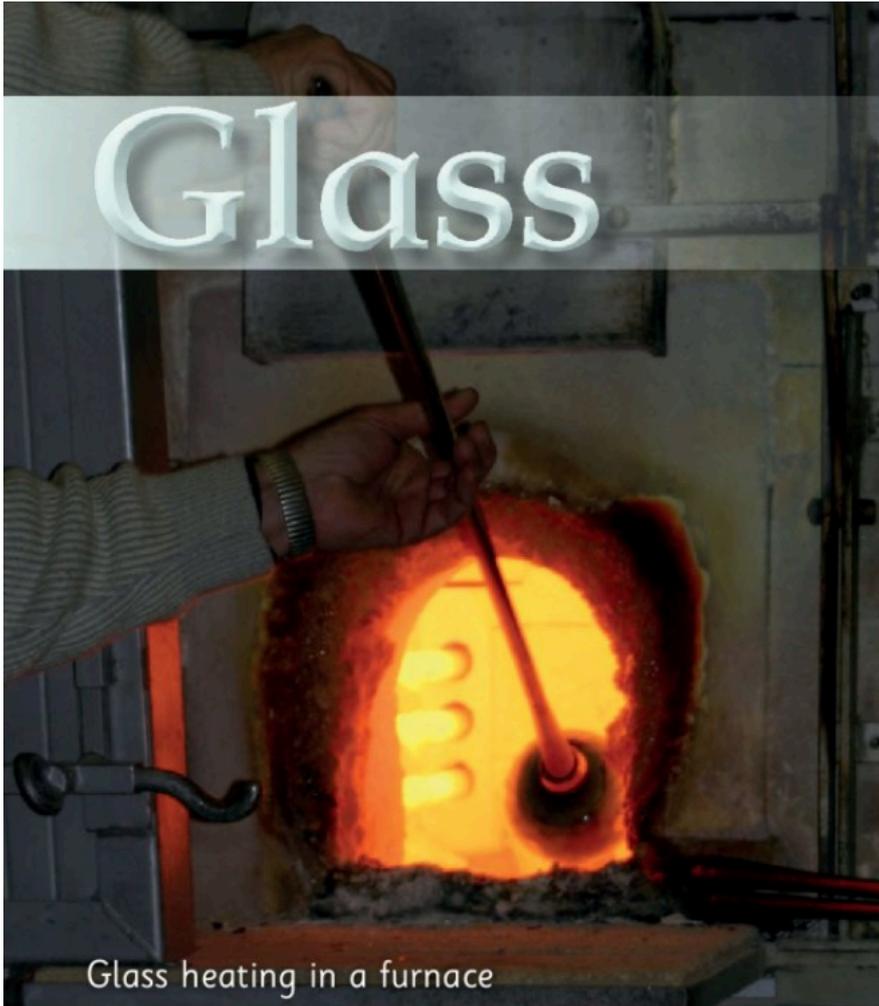


Glass



Glass heating in a furnace



Molten glass



Windows

Long, long ago somebody lit a really hot fire on some sandy ground. After the fire had gone out, there were little beads of glass in the cold ashes. Glass had just been discovered!

Glass is mostly made from sand. It gets heated in a very hot oven called a **furnace**. The sand gets very hot and melts. You can pour it or bend it. You can even blow it into bubbles with a special pipe. This is how bottles and vases are made.

Once you have the hot glass in the shape that you want, just let it get cool. Then it goes hard. We use glass for lots of things. ■

CHECK-UP

- 1 What is glass mostly made from?
- 2 What is another name for a very hot oven?
- 3 What happens to sand when it gets really hot?
- 4 What can glass makers do with melted glass?
- 5 What happens to hot glass when it cools down?