

# How is glass made?

A beautiful glass window doesn't seem to have a lot in common with the millions of sand particles that cover beaches, but you'd be surprised!

Glass is made by melting lots of sand with several other chemicals like sodium bicarbonate and lime. The temperature has to be very hot-hot enough to reduce the sand mixture to a steaming liquid. Once the liquid starts to cool, glassmakers have only a small window of time to give it shape before the sand liquid cools into a hardened substance. If the glassmaker works fast enough, he can make the glass into anything from a vase to a window!



## ACTIVITY:

**Go on a glass treasure hunt in your own home! Record the different types of glass items you find. How do you think a glassmaker formed the glass into each unique shape?**

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