



Comisiynydd  
Plant Cymru  
Children's  
Commissioner  
for Wales

Dear Reader

This resource was published by the previous Children's Commissioner, Sally Holland.

Please note that the current Children's Commissioner is Rocio Cifuentes.

You can [read more about her on our website.](#)

Diolch

The Children's Commissioner for  
Wales' team

# The Revolve Project

KS2 Activity



# The Revolve Project

*A lesson plan focusing on the impact clothing production can have on our environment. Pupils will be encouraged to think about ways in which they could re-use school uniforms to reduce that impact. The Revolve Project could be delivered as a lesson to KS2 pupils or as an activity for your School Council.*

Before running this activity with your class you might want to think about any groups in your community that are already running re-use shops. There is not just one way of setting up a shop or scheme. Your pupils may want to join up with something that is already available or create their own.

## Links to rights

*You can either introduce these rights throughout the session or use our Symbols pack and display them at the front of the class.*

**Article 12** – The right to be listened to and taken seriously

**Article 15** – The right to join groups and make friends

**Article 26** – My family should get the money they need to help bring me up

**Article 29** – The right to an education which develops my personality respect for others rights and the environment

## Timing:

This session will last 60 minutes.

## Learning Outcomes:

- Children will have learnt about the environmental impact of clothes (with a focus on school uniforms).
- Children will have explored Article 12: the right to be listened to and taken seriously
- Children will create their own action plan to create change in their school

## Resources

- [A video clip](#) of the Children's Commissioner for Wales, Sally Holland, introducing the resource
- **'Tale of a T-Shirt' Cards**
- [CCFW animation film](#)
- **'Tale of a T-Shirt' Activity Sheet**
- **Big Ideas Handout Sheet**

## Key Vocabulary

*Recycle, Sustainable, Children's Commissioner for Wales, Reuse, Environment, Affordable, Impact Introduction*

# The Revolve Project

## Introduction:

- Show pupils the video of the Children's Commissioner for Wales, Sally Holland, introducing the resource.
- Ask pupils to get into small working groups.
- Begin the session by playing a game called "**Guestimates**", this game involves each group coming up with a "Guestimate" to the question you pose. For the first question, **ask the class to guess how many pets the class owns collectively**. Write each groups guess up on the board. Then ask each pupil how many pets they own and keep a tally.

For the second question, ask the groups to think about how many school t-shirts they think the average pupil would own from Year 3 to Year 6. Write each group's guess up on the board, as a class come to an agreement of the average number of t-shirts and tell the class you will **come back to that figure later on** in the lesson.

- Give each group a **Tale of a T-shirt pack**. Explain that you will be looking at the impact making clothes has on our environment and you will be focusing on cotton. Tell pupils that in each pack there are pictures that show the process of making a cotton t-shirt. Explain that you would like pupils to work together to **put the cards in the correct order**.

Confirm the correct order and ask groups to share any thoughts they had about the cotton process/ anything they were unsure of.

## Main

- Move on to focus on card number three (watering the cotton). **Ask pupils how much water they think it takes to grow enough cotton for one t-shirt? Write down their guesses**. Tell pupils that you are going to watch a video which explains how much of an impact making clothes can have on the environment.
- After watching the film, **revisit the pupils' guesses** about how many litres of water they thought it took. Discuss how close/ far away from the actual amount of 2,720 litres they were.
- Revisit their guestimate about how many t-shirts you use in 3 years at school, and ask pupils if they can work out **how many litres of water is used to make all of those t-shirts**. **You may want to do this as a group**.

# The Revolve Project

- Inform pupils that Sally Holland, the Children's Commissioner for Wales, has been working with schools in Wales to start the Revolve Project. The Revolve Project is an exciting opportunity for schools to make a change in Wales. The Children's Commissioner is asking schools in Wales to think about how they could encourage more children to **reuse their school uniforms** by setting up a uniform shop in their school or

local area. Explain that you are going to work as a class to think about how your school can take part in The Revolve Project.

## Finish

- Hand out the **Big Ideas sheet** to each group, ask pupils to work in their groups to think about how they could take part in The Revolve Project. If you already have a shop in your school or local area then you could ask pupils to think about how it could be improved.
- Ask groups to feedback their ideas. Use our action plan template to work together to create a list of actions that would need to happen for The Revolve Project to take place and delegate actions in the group, with a deadline for pupils to complete tasks: e.g. ask teachers to help, start getting uniform donations, make posters.

## Follow on activity:

The "Tale of a T-Shirt" can be used as a follow up activity in different ways.

Using the Tale of a T-shirt worksheet ask pupils to write the "Tale of a T-shirt" alongside each image.

Focusing on the starred images in Tale of a T-shirt, pupils could do some self-directed learning and create a story, a newspaper article or a poster about their learning.

## Fair Trade:

Images 1,2, 5 and 9 would fit with any work you are already doing on fair trade.

You might want to start by asking the questions:

- Do you think these people are treated fairly in their job?
- Why is it important to be treated fairly?

Share your plan with us. Follow the link on the next page to do this.

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### **Follow on activity:**

The video in this follow on activity further explores the themes discussed in the first video.

Show pupils the following film:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p06n27x3>

Explain that in the film reporter Stacey Dooley has travelled to Central Asia to the Aral Sea. The Aral Sea was once the fourth-largest lake in the world. In the 1960s the main river feeding the lake was diverted to grow cotton, since then the Aral Sea has been slowly disappearing.

During the clip Stacey Dooley drives onto what was once the sea bed, and we see the devastating effects it has had. Pupils could write a story/ newspaper article or poster about what they have learnt.

### **Share with us:**

Why don't you share your pictures of the Revolve project in action with us?

Tweet @childcomwales to share your work.

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## Share with us

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Scan this QR code to complete a short survey about how you've found our resource and if it has helped your school.



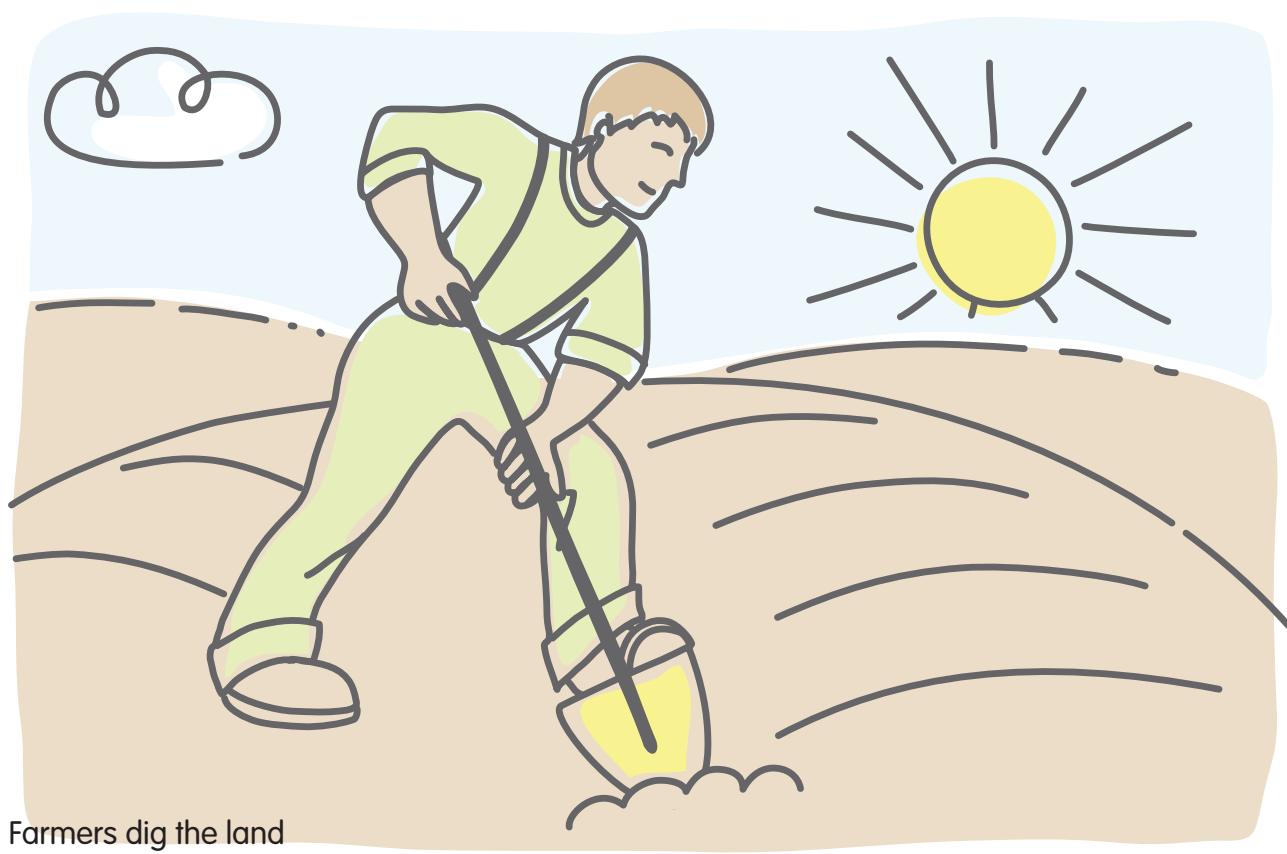
# Tale of a t-shirt

## Resources

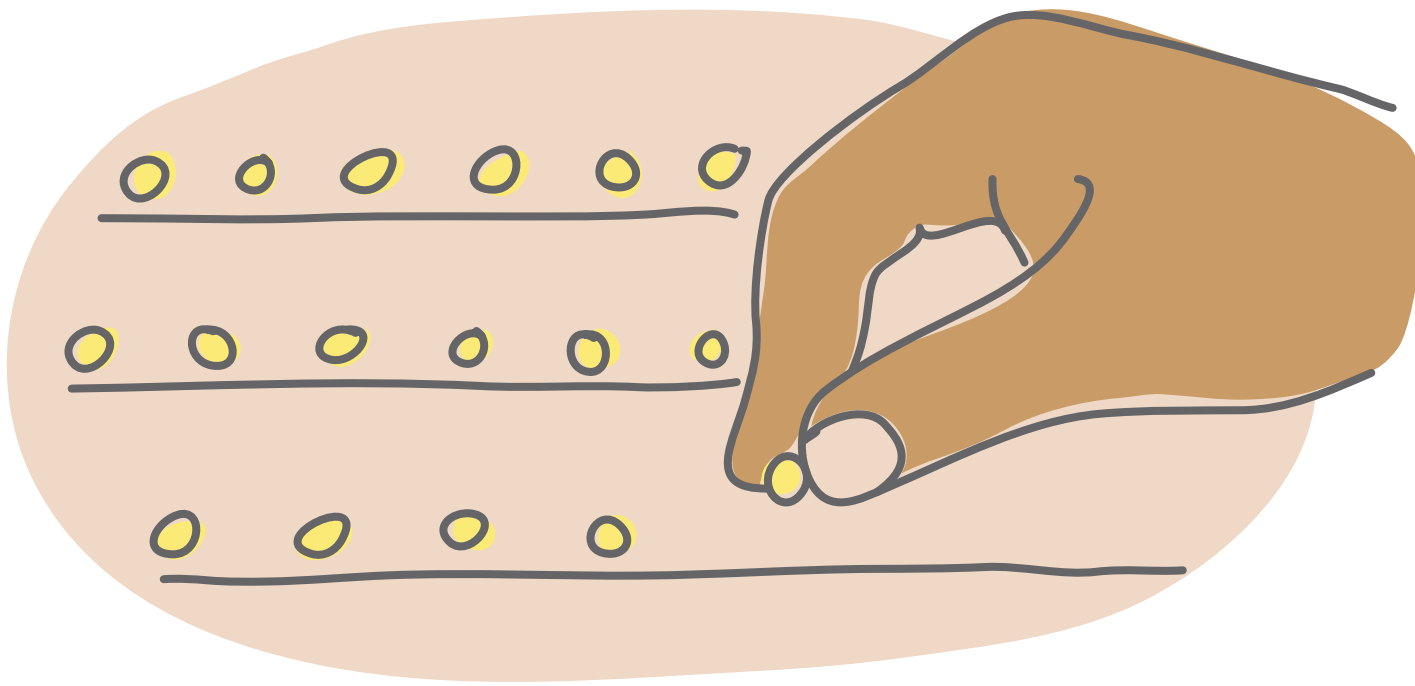
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1. Farmers dig the land
2. Farmers plant the cotton seeds
3. Farmers water the seeds
4. Farmers add chemicals and pesticides to make sure the cotton grows
5. Farmers pick the cotton
6. In the factory, machines change it from balls of cotton wool to yarn
7. The cotton is then knitted by a machine to be made into fabric
8. Dye is added to change the colour of the fabric
9. The fabric is then cut up and sewn to make t-shirts
10. A lorry picks up the t-shirts from the factory and takes it to the port
11. Crane drivers load the t-shirts onto the ship
12. Sailors steer the ship over the rough sea to the UK
13. Lorry drivers drive the t-shirts to the store
14. Shop workers sell us a t-shirt
15. You put your new t-shirt on

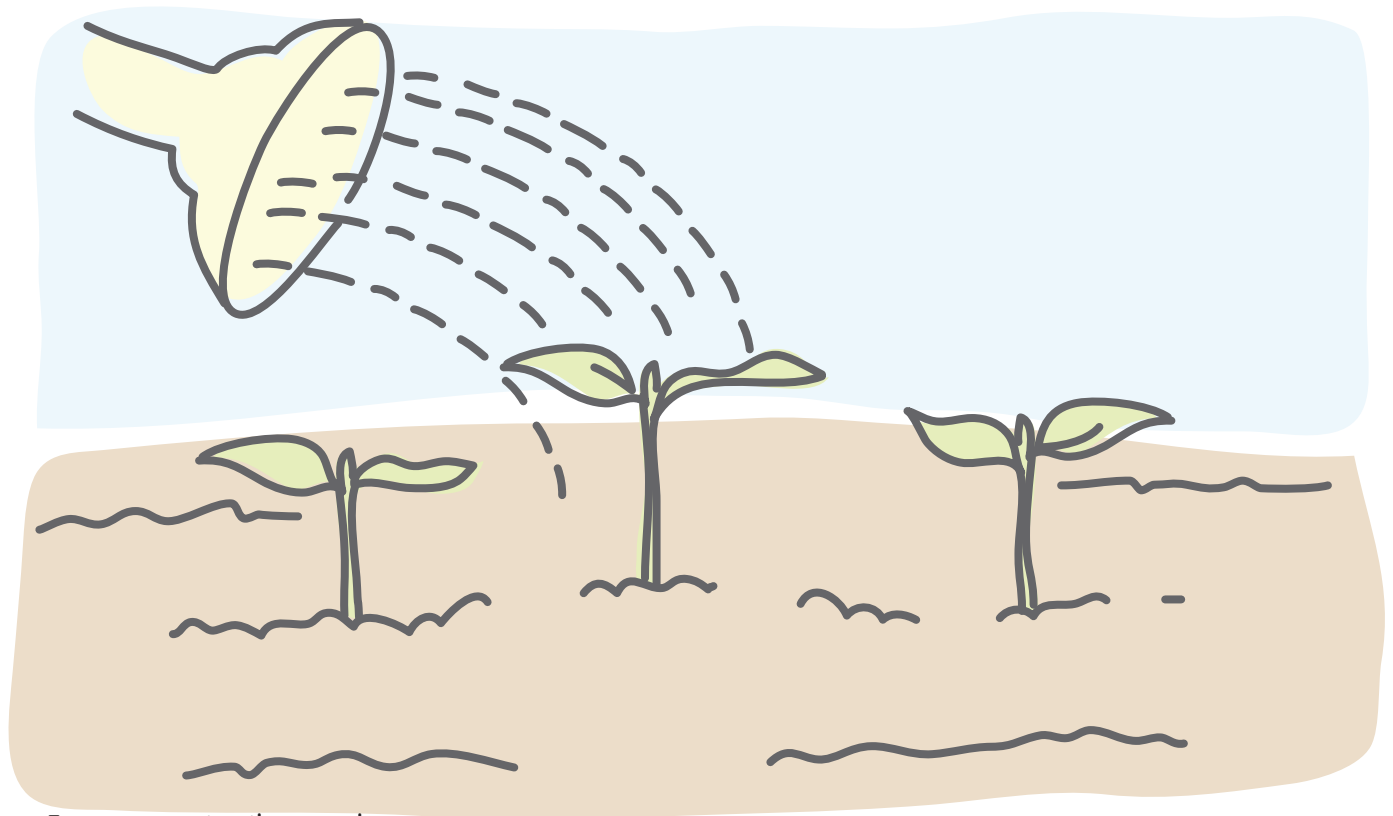




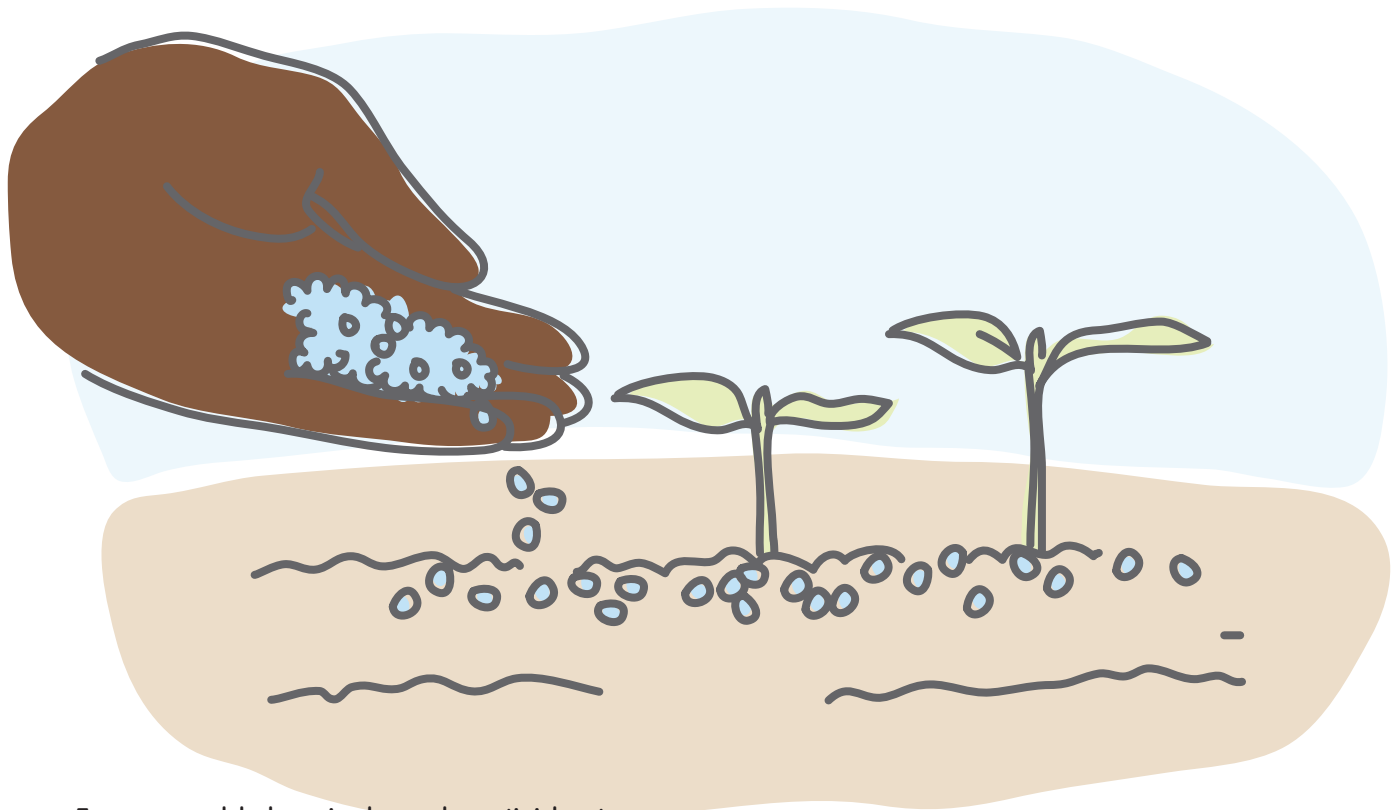
Farmers dig the land



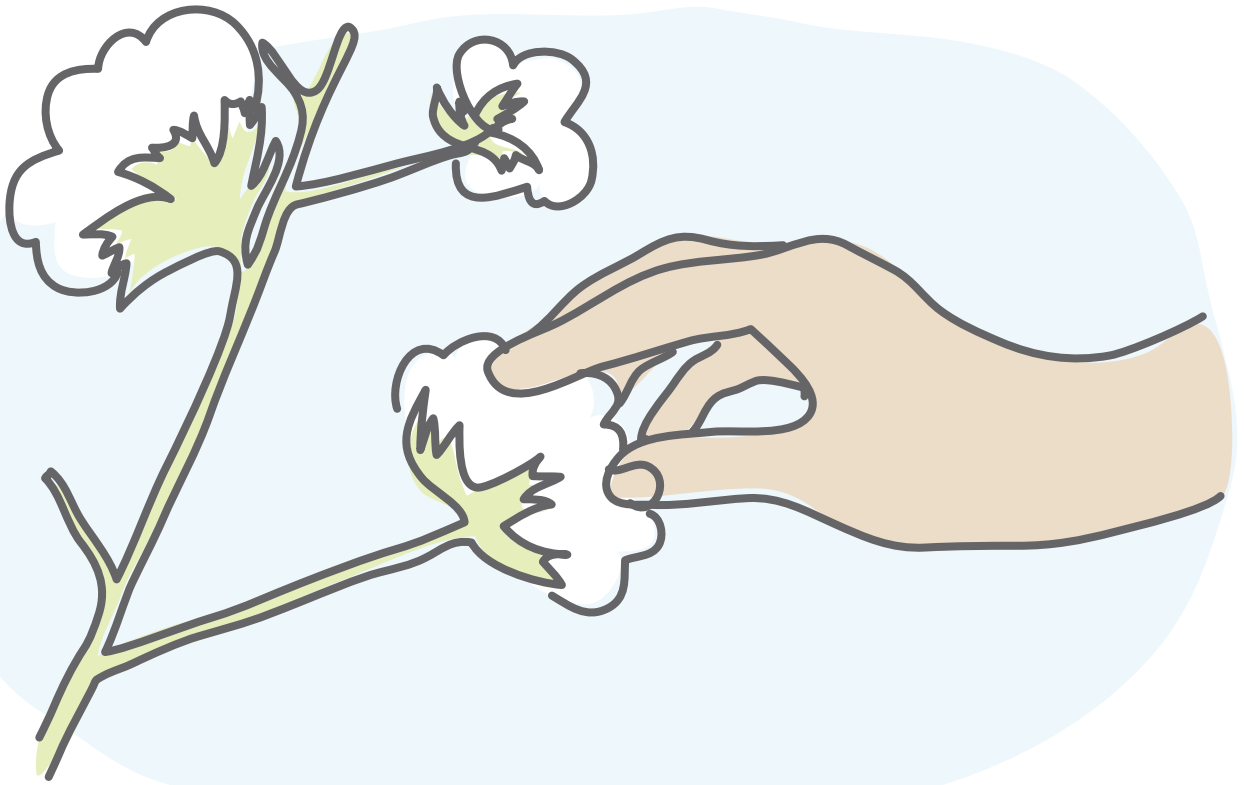
Farmers plant the cotton seeds



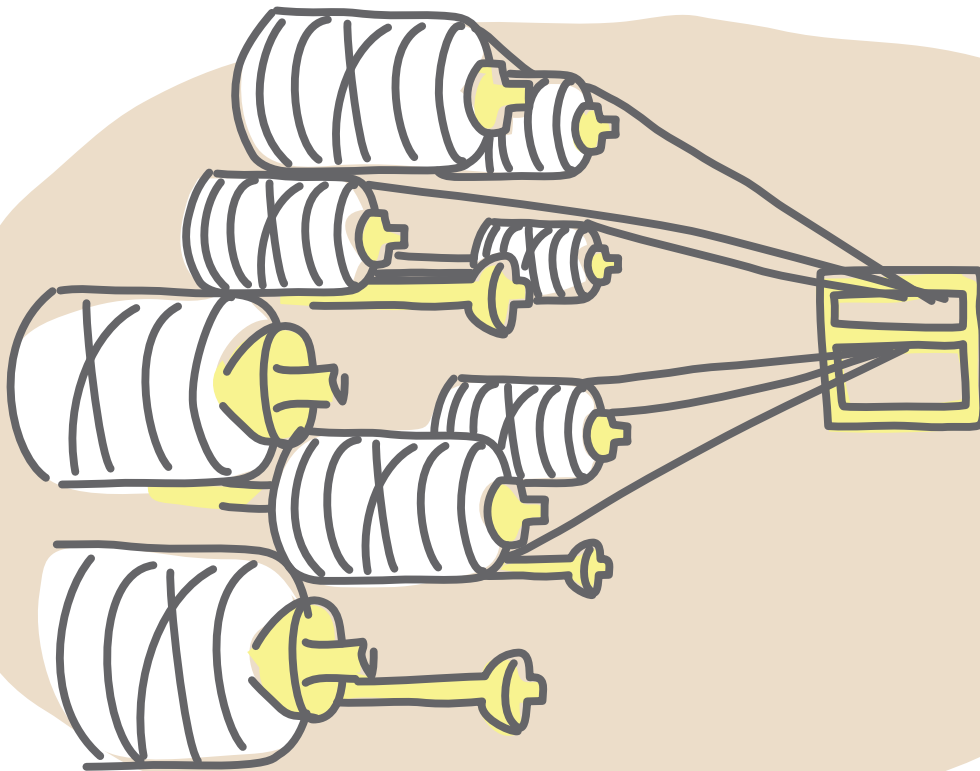
Farmers water the seeds



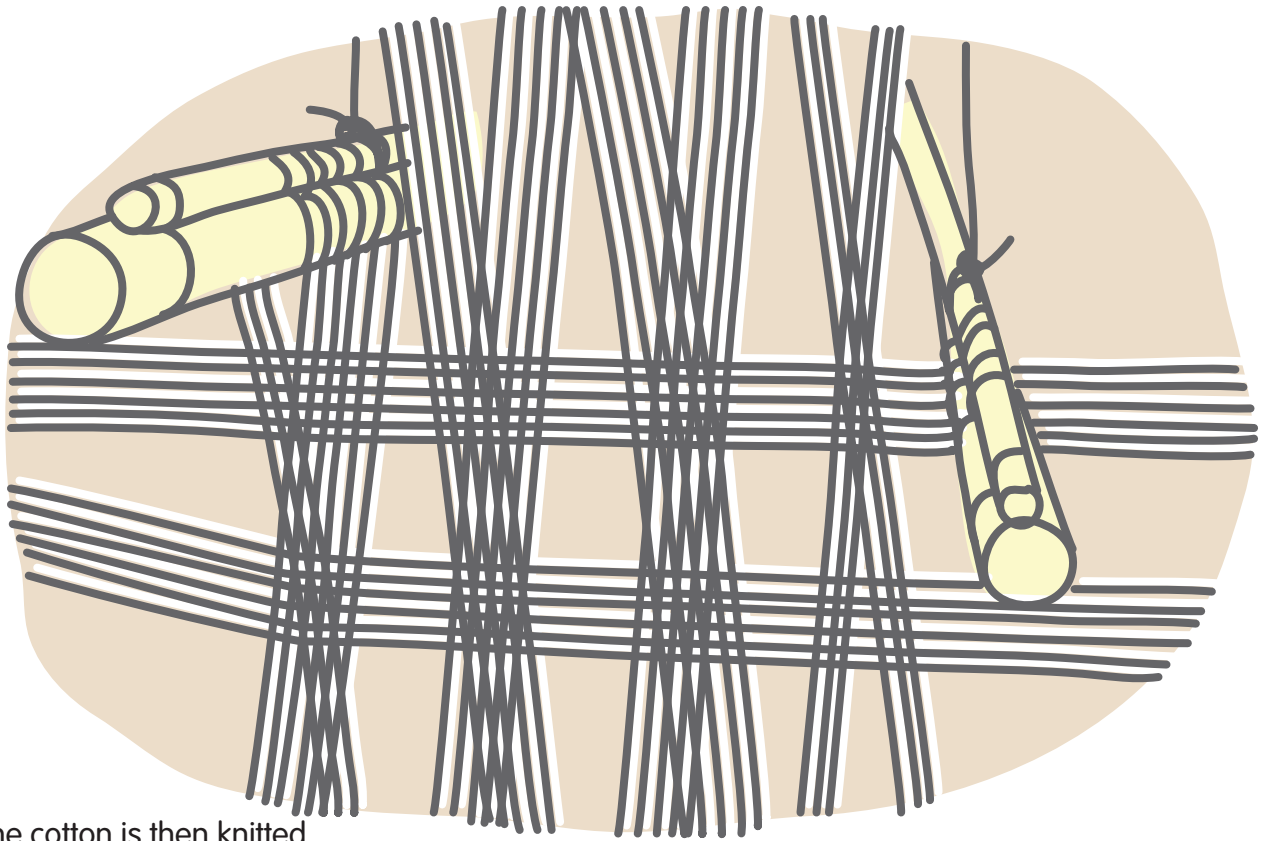
Farmers add chemicals and pesticides to make sure the cotton grows



Farmers pick the cotton



In the factory, machines change it from balls of cotton wool to yarn



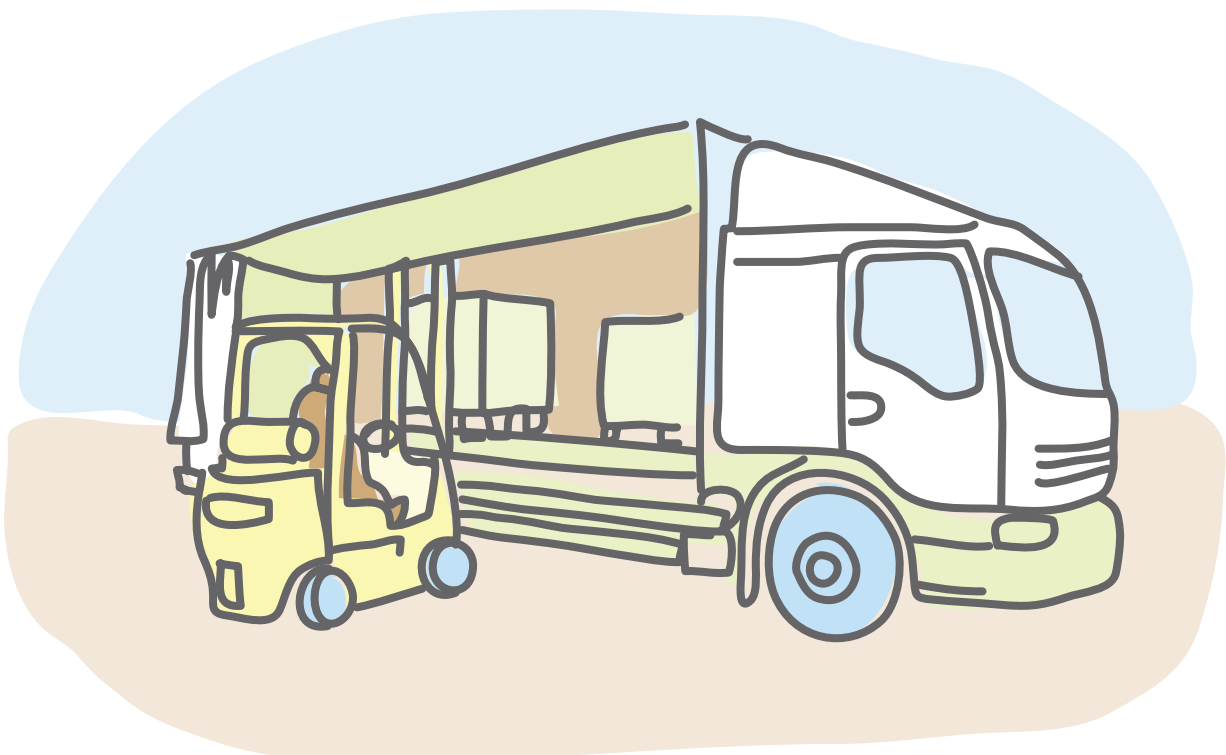
The cotton is then knitted  
by a machine to be made into fabric



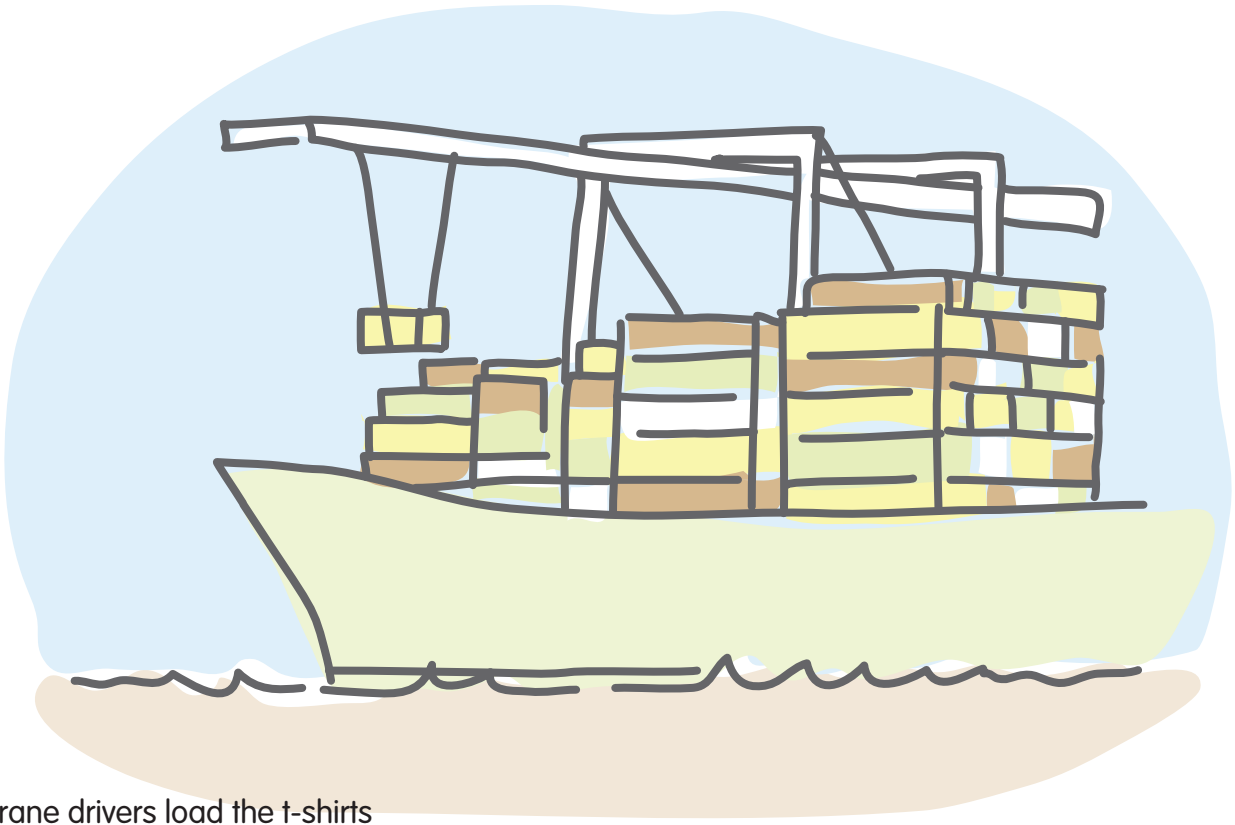
Dye is added to change  
the colour of the fabric



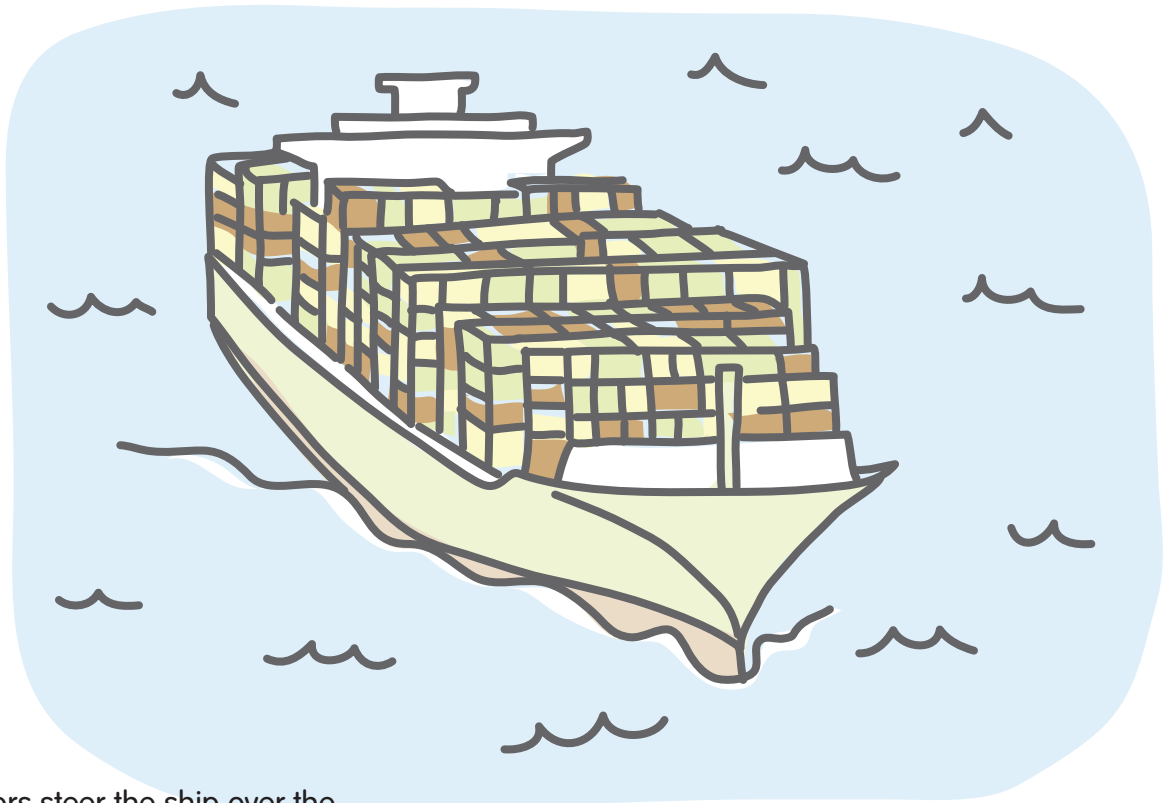
The fabric is then cut up and sewn to make t-shirts



A lorry picks up the t-shirts from the factory and takes it to the port



Crane drivers load the t-shirts onto the ship



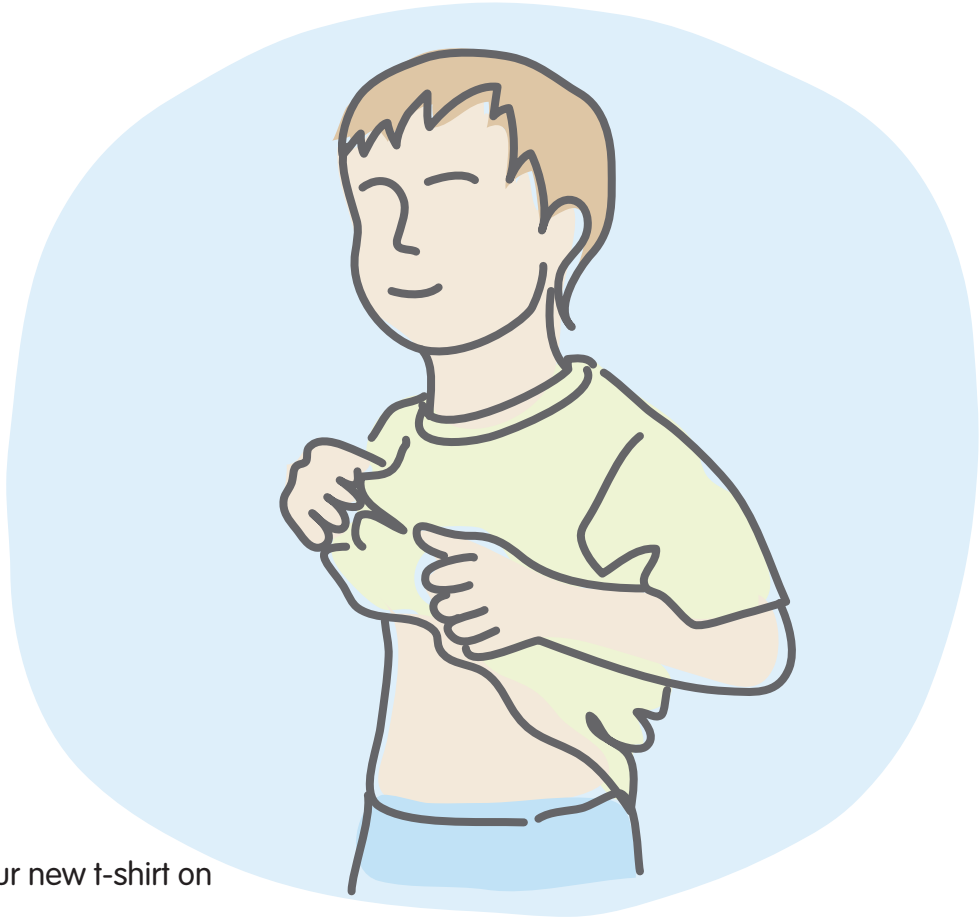
Sailors steer the ship over the rough sea to the UK



Lorry drivers drive the t-shirts to the store



Shop workers sell us a t-shirt

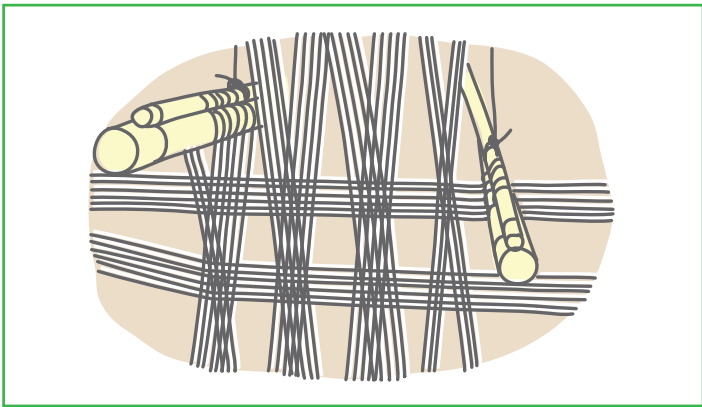
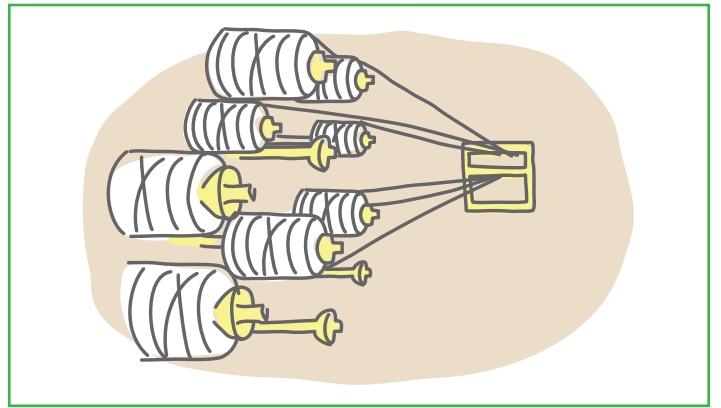
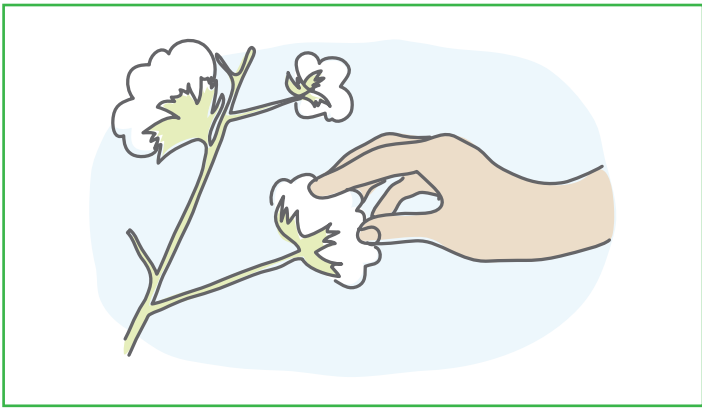
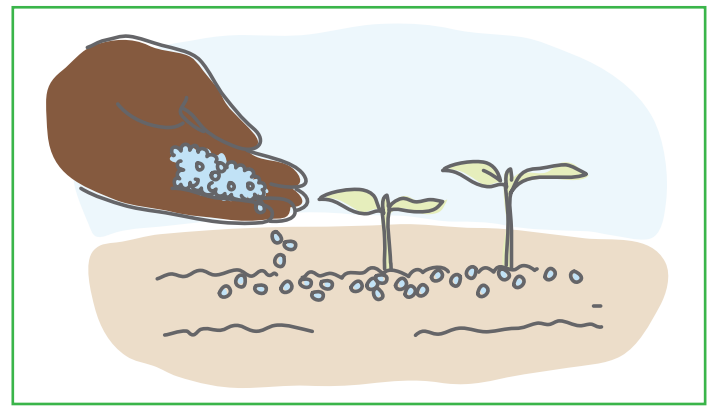
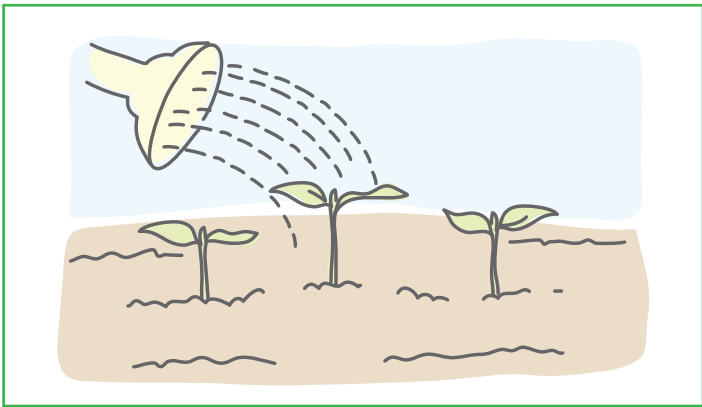
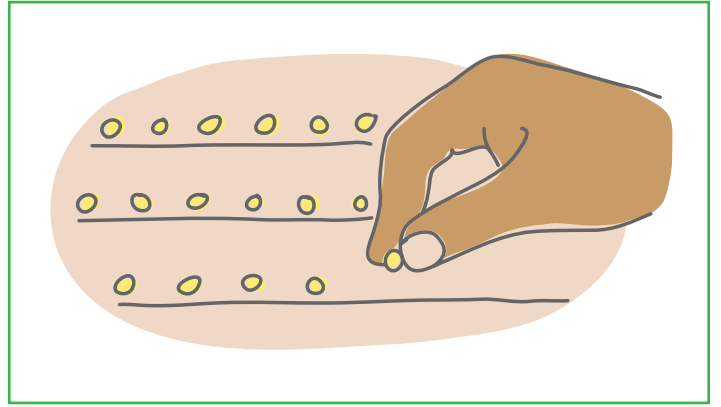


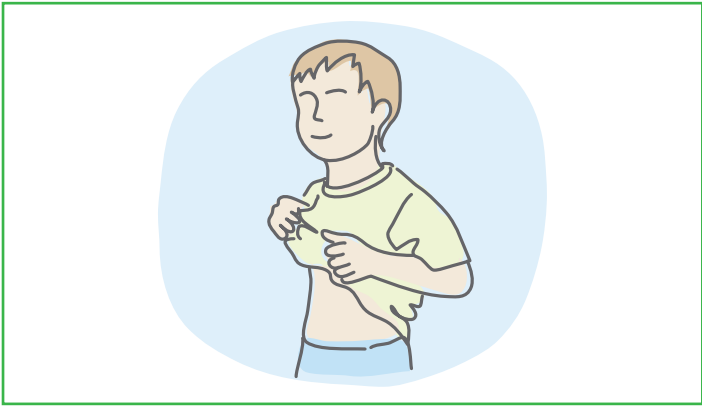
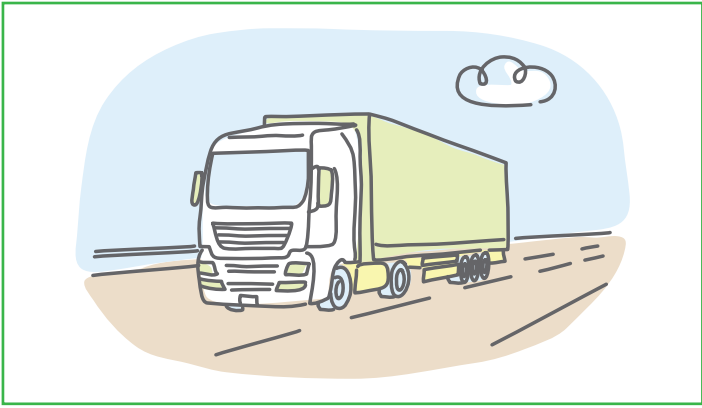
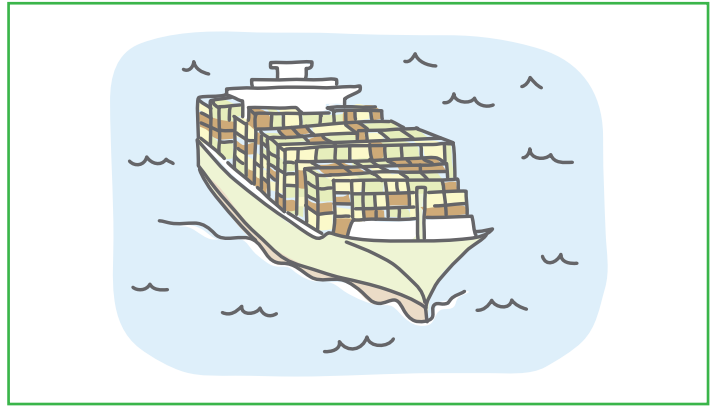
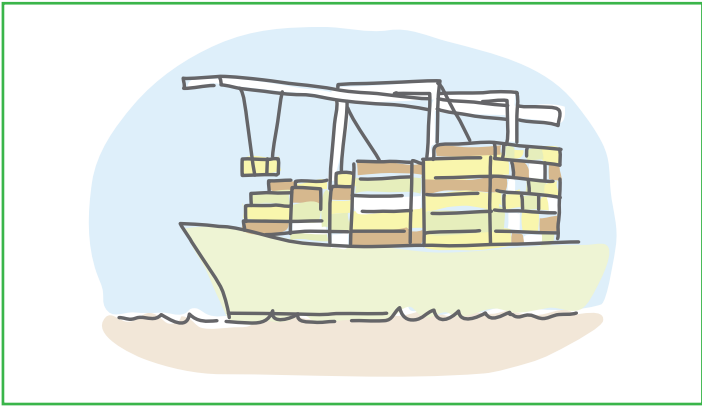
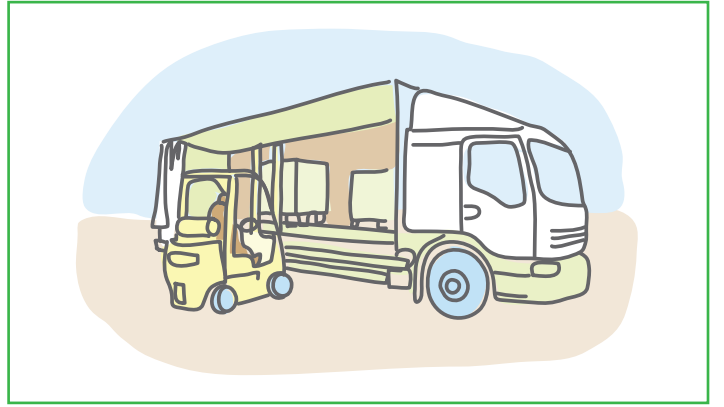
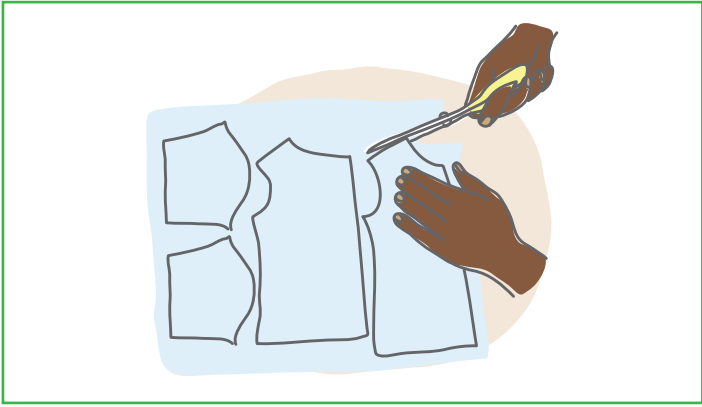
You put your new t-shirt on



# Tale of a t-shirt activity sheet

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# Big Ideas Handout

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The idea behind The Revolve Project is to set up a uniform re-use scheme in your school.  
Use this sheet to help you plan your project

What will you name your shop?

Where will you put your shop, in the school or somewhere else?

Who will help you run your shop?

# Big Ideas Handout

How many times a month will you open?

How will you get uniforms?

Why is Sally Holland's "Revolve Project" a good idea?  
Any other ideas?