

A PRODUCT LIFE CYCLE

Choose a locally-manufactured product and investigate its life cycle.

- How is that product made?
- Identify all the raw materials used to make the product and its packaging. You might need to ask the company.
- Where do the raw materials come from? How far does each of them travel?
- Draw a life cycle for your product, showing inputs, outputs and recycling of materials.

A product life cycle

Everything has a life cycle, even manufactured products. The diagram below shows the life cycle of a packet of potato chips. If the aluminium and plastic in the packet were recycled then the life cycle would become more of a cycle, rather than a straight line.

