

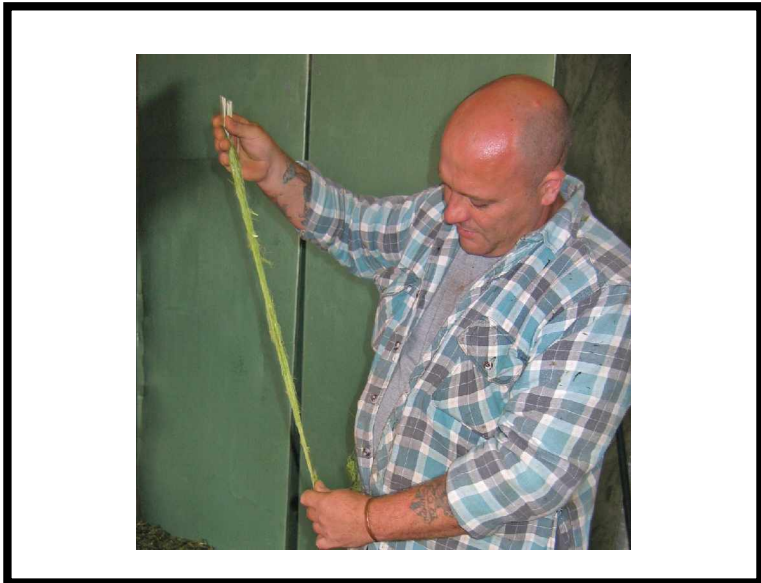
Houses from Hemp

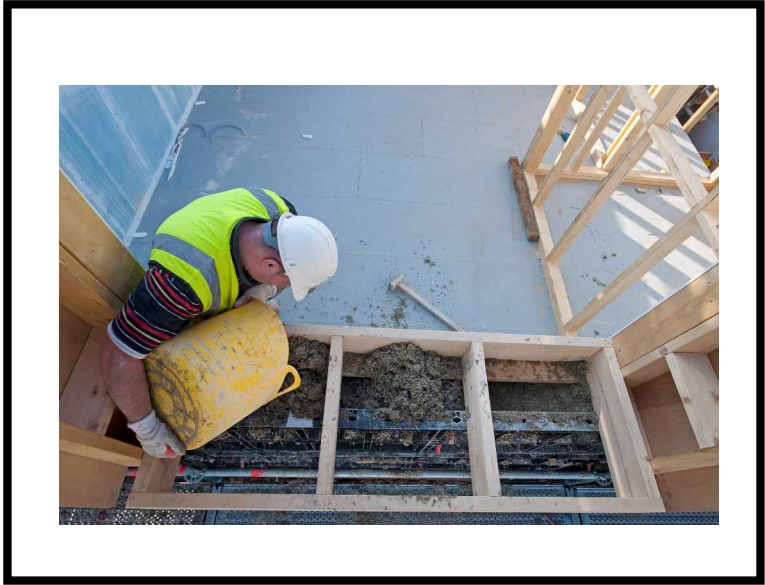
The web page has a short video slide show that shows the process of making a house using hempcrete. It has an audio commentary and a text script is also available.

After viewing the video, children can complete the paper-based sort and sequence activity using the statement sheets and photographs below. These should be cut out and laminated.

The images used here are courtesy of the National Non-food Crop Centre.









Farmers plant hemp and grow it like any other crop in their fields. As it grows, the hemp takes in carbon dioxide from the atmosphere.

Hemp is a tall plant and its stem contains many strong fibres. When it is fully grown, it is harvested.

The long stalks are left in the field for a short time. this makes it easier to get the fibres out of the plant.

The hemp stems are processed to remove the long fibres.

The long fibres have been removed from the stems. These fibres are very strong and stringy. They help to make the hempcrete.

The fibres are mixed with a lime mortar. This is like a thick porridge. The mixture dries to make a really strong type of concrete, called hempcrete.

A wooden framework is made in the shape of the house walls. This is a mould.

The hempcrete is poured into the wooden moulds. This forms the shape of the house's walls.

When the hempcrete dries, it makes solid walls. All the wood and scaffolding is taken away and the house is finished.