

A Hiking Trip

Imagine you are planning to go on a long hiking trip. Think about what you will need to take with you. You will need to think about food, water, clothing, shelter and a lot more.

You will be walking for several weeks, up and down a lot of hills. You don't want your bag to be any heavier than it has to be. This is where aluminium comes in.

Go to a camping store and try to find equipment made from, or including, aluminium. You will discover that it is used in backpacks, tents, and cooking equipment. If all of these items were made of heavier materials, you would find that you would need to use too much energy to carry your bag as you walk. This is exactly the same in the transport industry. The heavier the vehicle, the more energy it takes and, as a result, the more greenhouse gases the vehicle emits.

The use of a lighter product is called light weighting.

Create a list for what you will take on your hike. How heavy will your bag be? Think of an interesting way to present your findings to your fellow hikers.

Curriculum Links

English: Reading, Writing

Society & Environment: Investigation, Communication & Participation, Resources

Mathematics: Measurement