



Making Glass

Discussion Questions:

How is glass made?

What raw materials are used to make glass?

What things can be manufactured with glass?

How is glass recycled?

What is glass made from?



sand



limestone



soda ash
(calcium carbonate)

Glass is made from three main raw materials: sand, limestone and soda ash. Other materials, such as colorants, can be added to make different types of glass.

These ingredients are heated in a furnace where they melt together to form a thick liquid that can be rolled, blown, or pressed into shape.

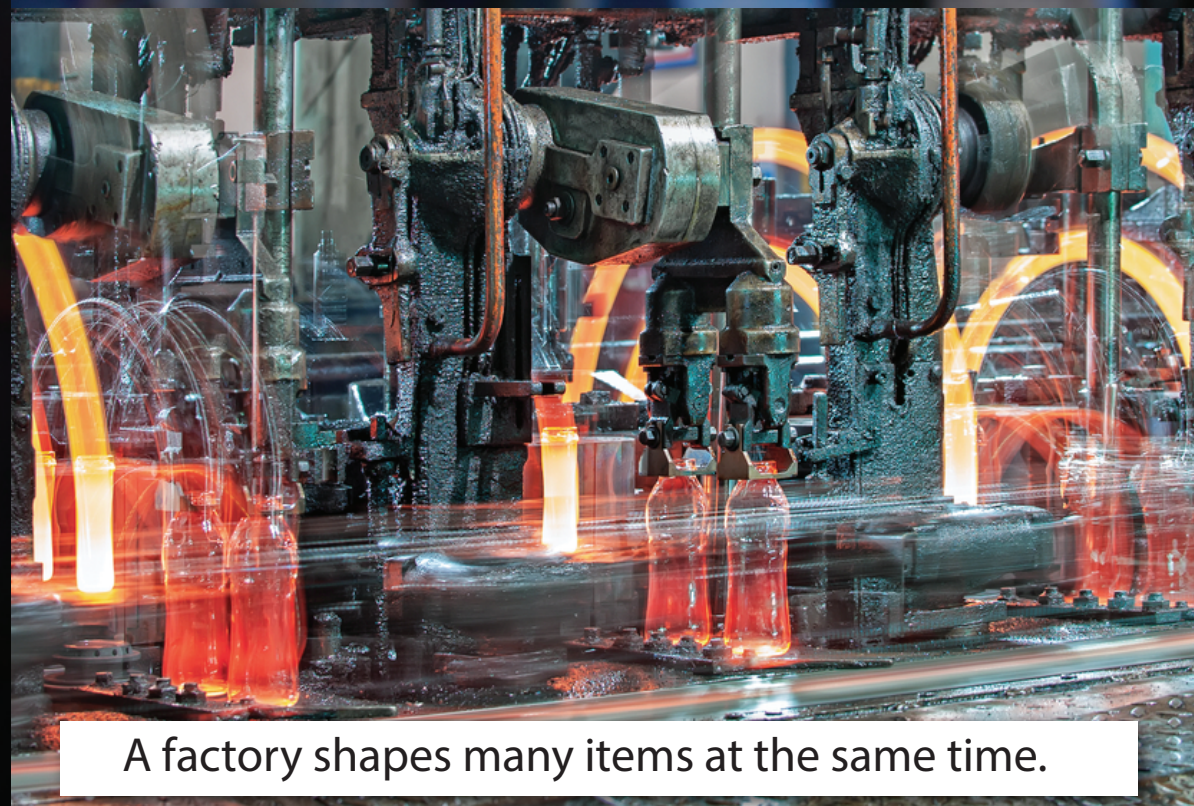




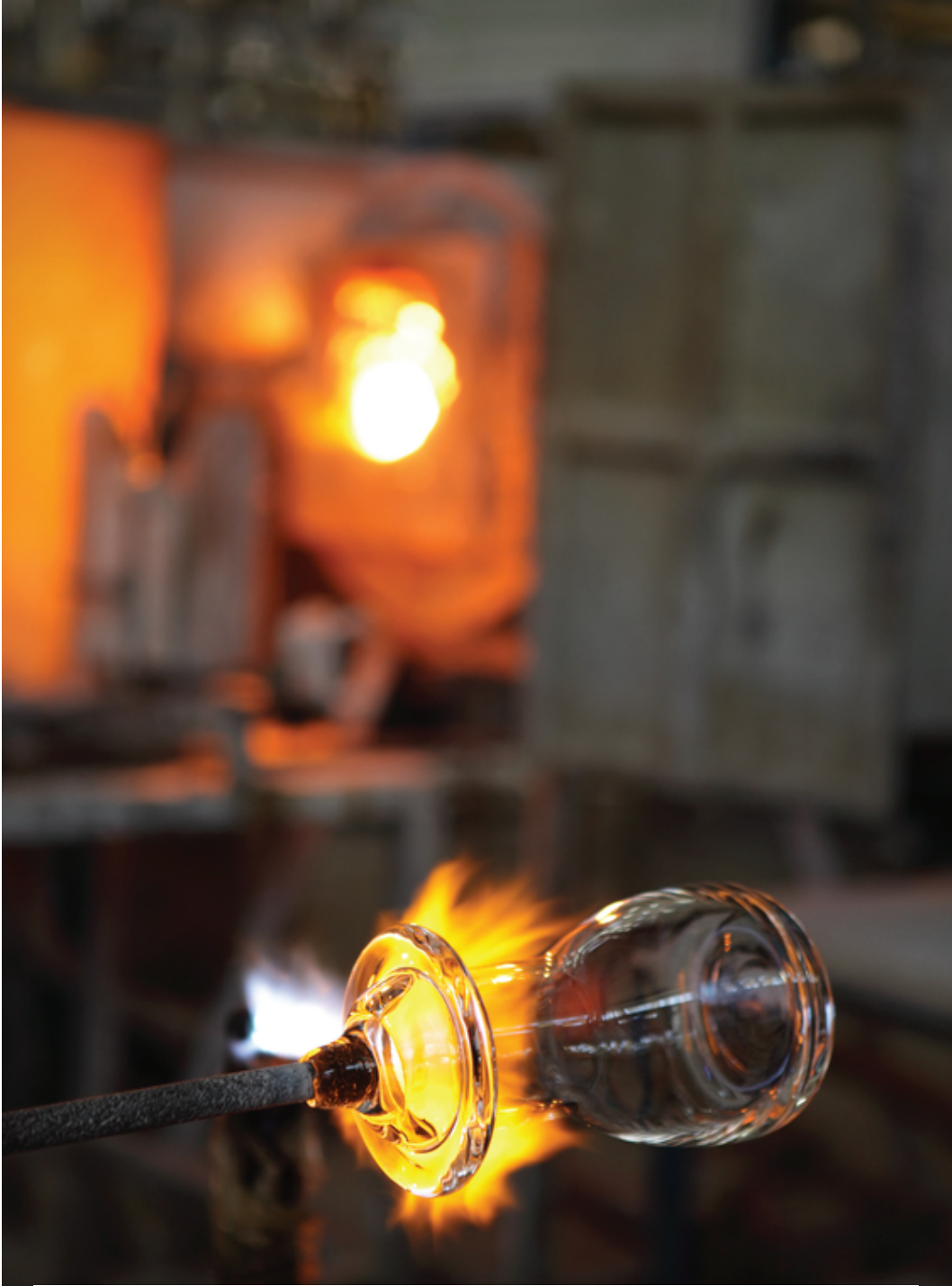
Pieces of molten glass are shaped to make different products.



Air is pumped into a piece of molten glass to make it hollow inside like the shape of a bottle.



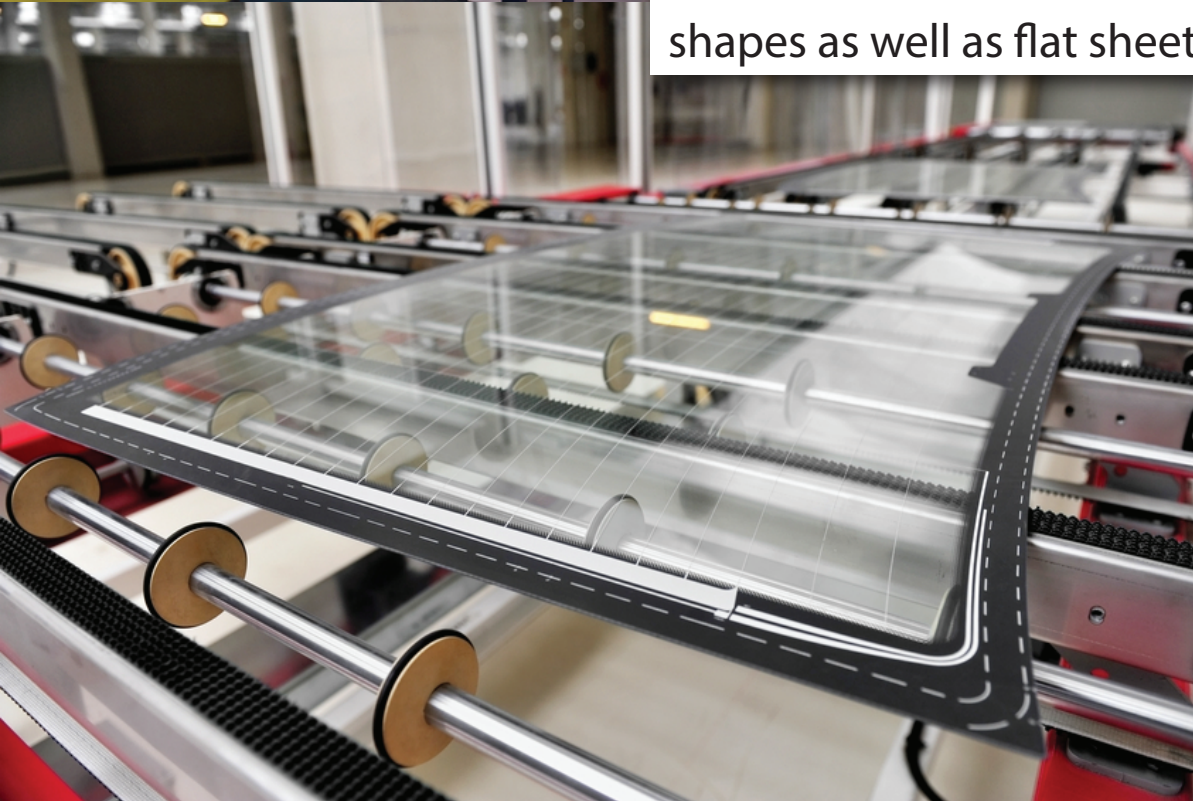
A factory shapes many items at the same time.



Glass is heated many times during the manufacturing process.



Glass can be made into a wide variety of shapes as well as flat sheets.





Recycled glass is cleaned and separated into colors in the recycling center.



Glass can be melted down and reshaped into new glass objects again and again.

