

## Balloons blow!

### Worksheet 1 Teacher's notes

1. We all love balloons. What occasions can you think of that people use balloons?

*birthdays, weddings, sports games...*

2. The process of making balloons is not easy at all. First go to <http://www.rainforest-alliance.org/kids/species-profiles/rubber-tree> and read about rubber trees which are very important in balloon production. What product harvested from rubber trees is vital in balloon production?

*latex- liquid rubber*

3. Find explanation to these terms:

- latex- *lateks, liquid rubber*
- pigment – *pigment*
- mold- *forma*
- to cure- *zahartować*
- to accelerate-*przyspieszyć*
- to dip- *zanurzyć*
- coagulant- *koagulant, środek powodujący krzepnięcie*

Go to <http://www.balloonhq.com/faq/making.html#260> , read the information and draw a diagram showing the stages of balloon production:

*students' answers based on the information from the website*

4. Now go to <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PJQecDCS1aI>, watch How it's made – balloons and answer the questions:

- What were the balloons made from in the past? *animal bladders*
- When was the rubber balloon invented? *XIX century*
- When did the balloons start to be mass produced? *1930s*
- Why is the dye filtered? *to remove lumps*
- Why are the roller brushes used? *to create lips of the balloon*

5. Although the balloons are used in cheerful occasions and celebrations, there is a darker side to them. Go to <http://balloonsblow.org/Education> and read up about the ecological impact of balloons. What do you think?

*students' own answers*