RAW MATERIALS
Steel is made from ore, such as iron oxide, iron silicate, and limestone, and coke. Molten iron and other ingredients are added to a steel furnace to increase the temperature of the molten metal. Molten iron is poured into ladles which are then taken to the steel furnace.

IRONMAKING
Iron ore, limestone, and coke are tipped into the blast furnace. Hot air is blasted through the furnace to increase the temperature of the molten metal. Molten iron is then taken to the steel furnace.

STEELMAKING
The steel plant is equipped with a Basic Oxygen Steelmaking (BOS) vessel. Oxygen steelmaking is a process that combines liquid iron from the blast furnace to be tipped into a vessel at high temperatures. The oxygen combines with the carbon and other impurities in the steel. The resulting gases are then removed, and the steel is poured into ladles for casting.

STEEL SLABS INTO COIL
Molten steel is tapped from the furnace and converted into slabs of solid steel. The slabs are passed through a series of rollers which squeeze the steel to make it thinner and longer. The long strips of steel are then cut into smaller pieces and converted into slabs of solid steel.

CANS IN THE CLASSROOM
THE LIFECYCLE OF A CAN

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5. CAN MAKING
The 10 tonne coils are fed through a machine to form small rectangular pieces (or blanks) which are then cut into smaller pieces and converted into slabs of solid steel.

6. FILLING CANS
All types of food arrive at the canning factory and are prepared ready for the canning process. The food is then packed into the can and sealed using a machine to form small metallic cans which are stacked into trays and transported to the steel plant.

7. PRESSURE COOKING
Seaweed produce like fruit and vegetables are canneries and are canned in a canning factory. The cans are then hermetically sealed using hot water or steam and the filled can proceeds to the most important stage - the cooking process.

8. TRANSPORT TO SHOPS
After the can is opened, the food in the can makes the food safe and gives it a long shelf life to ensure the food remains “fresh” until the can is opened.

9. USING CANS AT HOME
Canned foods may be eaten alongside fresh foods and are part of a balanced nutritional healthy diet. Some cans come in a variety of sizes and shapes. They can be placed in the cupboard or fridge to help keep your food fresh. All canned foods are easy to recycle. To recycle cans at home, it is helpful to rinse them first before being recycled and to avoid crushing or bending them.

10. RECYCLING
Food cans are made from steel and aluminum and are 100% and infinitely recyclable. What could be better than something that contributes to your 5-a-day and used for snacks or to help cook a quick, easy and versatile meal? Cans even contribute to your 5-a-day. Food cans are easy to recycle. To recycle cans at home, it is helpful to rinse them first before being recycled and to avoid crushing or bending them.

THE LIFECYCLE OF A CAN

1. Two piece can making
2. Each for cans
3. Three piece can making
4. Using cans at home
5. Filling cans
6. Pressure cooking
7. Transport to shops
8. Transport to stores
9. Using cans at home
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