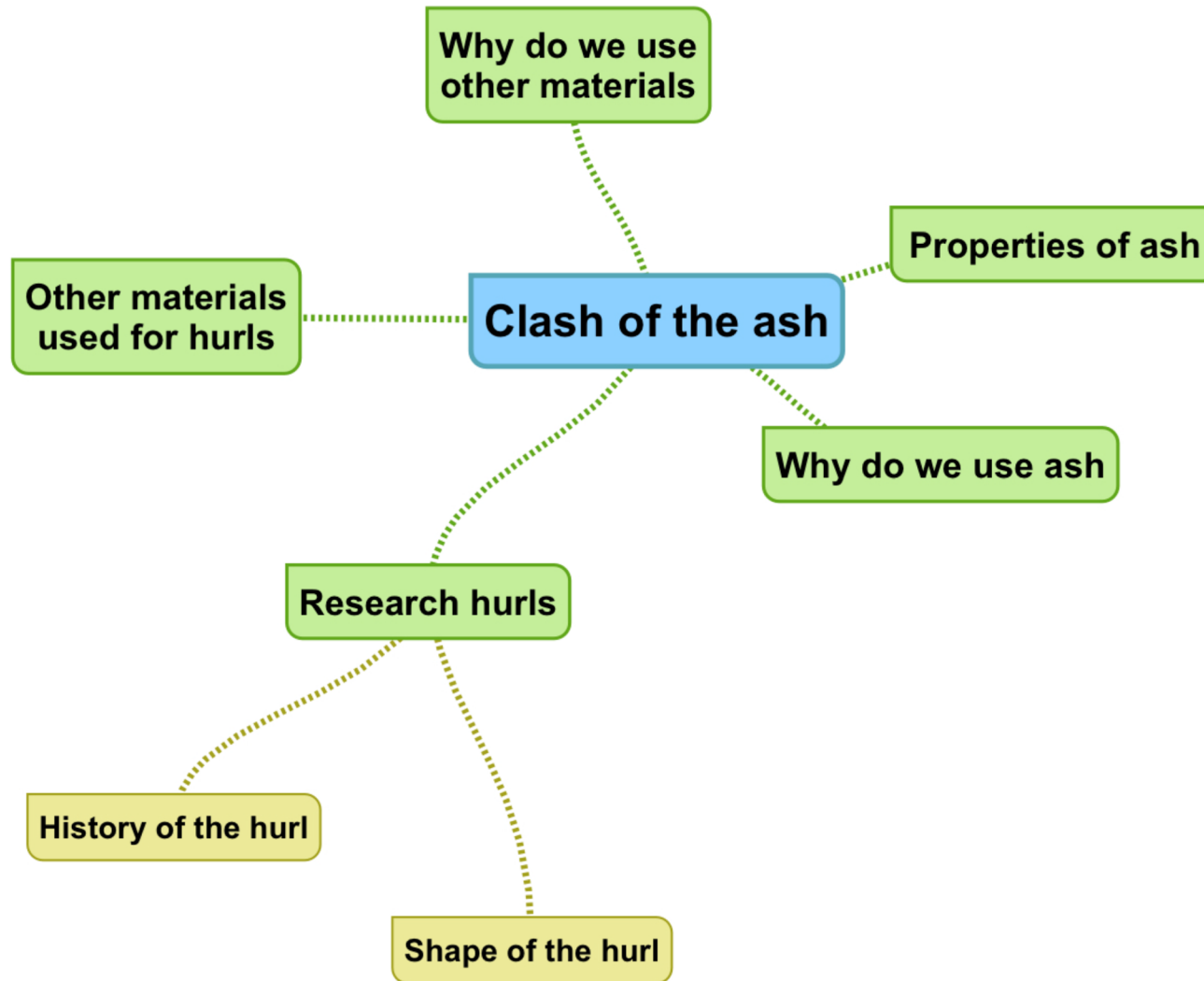


# Clash of the ash



# History of the hurl

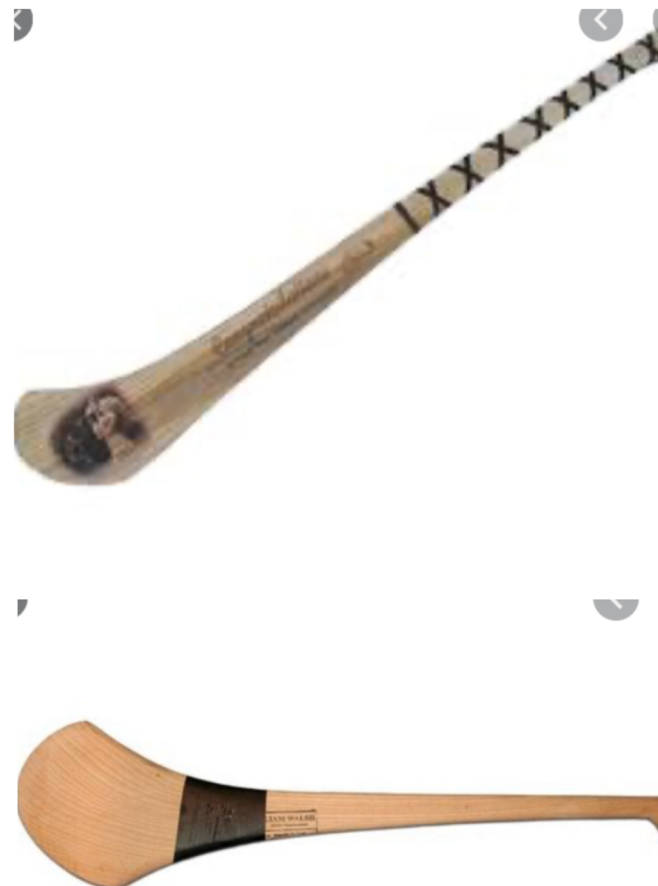
- The game of **Hurling** has prehistoric **origins** and has been played in Ireland for at least 3,000 years years in Ireland with the first literary reference dating back to 1272 BC. In **historical** texts the earliest reference to **hurling** appears to have been made about 1272 BC at the battle of Moytura, near Cong in County Mayo.

<https://www.rebelogcoaching.com/library/the-history-hurling/>



## Shape of the hurl

- Through the 1900s up to the 2000 the hurls would have a 13cm width and be much longer because it gave you more power hitting a heavier ball. Than hurls started to have a longer width, the ball was lighter and hurls were much smaller since you didn't need that much power.



# Properties of ash

- A light-colored species with an open grain and a coarse **texture** similar to oak, Ash is relatively dense with good working and finishing properties. **The wood** of Ash is economically important due to its **strength, hardness, weight, and shock resistance**.
- Currently, there are 19,000 hectares of ash in Ireland although 75% of the wood in the country now has to be imported. The total ash demand here per year is between 300,000 and 400,000 hurleys, which equates to upwards of 900 hectares.

# Why do we use ash

- Ash timber is strong and flexible with a good capacity for shock absorbency. The lines on a hurl curve which helps the shock absorbency. For this reason ash has been traditionally used in Ireland for the production of hurleys. Irish ash is said to be the best ash for hurley making due to the mild damp climate.





## Other materials used for hurls

- Ash's disease causes new ideas for other hurls to be made out of other materials.
- Fibreglass is one the other type materials used to substitute ash hurls.
- Fibreglass is stronger than ash hurls.
- Bambú is a new type of hurl recently made.
- Just as good as ash, same feel, same strength.



## Fibreglass hurls

- There are a number of club hurler's all around the Country using them.
- They use it because they believe it gives them an advantage.
- That advantage is consistency of stroke in all weather conditions and consistency if they need a replacement.
- A fibreglass hurl is stronger but not unbreakable.
- The next Cúltec you purchase will replicate the same high standards of touch, feel, strike and balance that you have become accustomed to.





## Conclusion

- I found out why ash and bamboo are the only types of woods that are able to play hurling.
- The woods are able to take the hits, pressure, vibrations and survive through any weather conditions: hot or cold.
- Some people believe we should change to fibreglass and it should be more popular opinion than the ash.
- Since ash has a disease and running low on supply.
- The fibreglass hurls are stronger than the ash as well.

## Teacher Annotations

The research used was very effective for the topic and allowed an in-depth analysis and comparison of materials used to make hurleys.

There was some reference to ash disease but could have been elaborated on further as a local/global issue.

The evaluation of materials was evident through, but brief conclusions were made on the overall Classroom-Based Assessment.

The Classroom-based Assessment was well presented and used a number of images to support the text.

## Overall Judgement

In line with expectations

