If you used a toothbrush this morning or rode to school in a car, you were using things made from textile fibers. The bristles on a toothbrush and the tires on the car are from man-made fibers.

In the transportation industry, textiles can be found in the interiors of planes, autos, trains, trucks, buses, boats, motorcycles, airbags, tires, hoses, and belts.

In the field of medicine, textiles can be found in the form of bandages, casts, sutures, dental floss, linens, and kidney fibers. They are also used to cover burns to prevent loss of fluids through the skin surface.

In the geotextile industry, which deals with building roads, oil production, and the environment, you will find liners for toxic waste disposal, soil conservation and erosion control, for highway construction, and for preventing ponds and lakes from leaking. Gardening textiles prevent weeds and conserve moisture.

In your kitchen you will find textiles as tea bag strings, coffee filters, net vegetable bags, cloth for wrapping cheese or ham, clothing bags, dust cloths, polishing clothes, mops, dish towels, and more.

Look around your bedroom. You will see upholstered furniture, rugs, wall coverings, linens, bedding, and window coverings – all made from textiles.

Textiles will also be found in recreational equipment, such as tents, tarps, boats, back packs, shoes, golf bags, sports clothing, protective coverings, exercise equipment, nets, baseballs, golf balls, fishing line and lures, parachutes, umbrellas and other rainwear, ropes, cords, and twine.

Dolls and their clothing, cloth books, games and stuffed animals all are made from textiles. Animal care products – food storage containers and bags, tack, animal blankets, pet bedding and toys all use textiles in some form.

The military uses textiles for uniforms, chemical protective suits, helmets, and heat and fire protection. The space industry uses textiles for similar purposes but also uses textiles on the nose cone of a space craft to keep it from burning upon re-entry into the atmosphere.

Textiles are everywhere. They are a very important part of our lives.