

Hi!



Let's talk about
The Waste Journey

Lesson Plan | KS1



Introduction

Waste or **rubbish** is what people throw away because they no longer need or want it, or they are required to dispose of something. Almost everything we do creates waste and as a society we are currently producing more waste than ever before.

We need to take responsibility for our waste. The best way to deal with waste is to avoid producing it in the first place. There are ways to reduce the amount of waste going into the bin as well. For example some items, such as vegetable waste, can be composted to make quality garden compost. Many of the items that we throw away can be reused for different purposes or recycled to make new products.

To lead into this lesson, initiate a discussion based on the following questions:

- Who knows what waste is?
- Where do we put our classroom waste?

Main Lesson

The first part of this session is to make children aware that they help decide where waste ends up. And their choices have consequences.

Activity 1: The Greentown Litterbugs

Read "The Greentown Litterbugs" narrative to the students. After reading the narrative ask the following questions:

1. What items did they bring on their picnic?

Answer: Bananas, newspaper, plastic bowl, etc

2. What did they do with their waste?

Answer: Left all of it at the picnic site

3. What should they have done with...?

(a) The newspaper?

Answer: Brought it home to recycle

(b) Lizzie and Lucas's glass bottle and aluminium can?

Answer: Recycled them

(c) The hard plastic container (Tupperware)?

Answer: Taken it home to reuse

(d) The banana peels?

Answer: Thrown them in the bin or taken them home to compost

Continue with the PowerPoint to highlight the journey of four different types of waste. Plastic, glass, newspaper and crisp packet. Discuss with the children that not all waste goes to the same place. Use images on the PowerPoint as hints to prompt the children with ideas.

Activity 2: The Journey of Waste

Split the class into four equal groups. Each group will help follow and arrange the journey of a plastic bottle, crisp packet, glass bottle and newspaper through to where they end up. It is advised that you have four 'stations' set up around the classroom for each group to move around. Use the **waste journey activity image cards** and place one set on each station. Instruct the children that they are going to become waste detectives and must find out where all the waste goes!

Children must place the cards in the correct order to complete the task. Once each group has correctly placed the cards in order, it is time for each group to move round to the next piece of waste. Continue this until each group has completed all four stations (approx. 5 mins on each).

Talk through the journey of each item from start to finish using the PowerPoint.



Lesson: The Waste Journey | Length of Lesson: 45 mins (approx)

Summary / Follow-up

Using the PowerPoint involve the children in answering three questions based around the activities they have completed. The questions are designed to summarise what they have learnt in the lesson.

Using the **What's in your lunchbox worksheet** ask the children to complete the activity. The worksheet can be found in additional activities

*These resources have been developed by Science for Sustainability
For more information please visit www.esci.keele.ac.uk/sfs*

Learning Objectives

Pupils will develop an understanding that they are responsible towards the world's natural resources and will become aware of the waste they produce and how it can be reduced, reused and recycled.

Pupils will also gain an understanding of the levels of waste going to landfill.

Resources

- 'Let's Talk About The Waste Journey' PowerPoint presentation (KS1)
- Munch and the Funny Tummy book
- The Greentown Litterbugs story
- Waste journey activity image cards x 4 sets

Organisation

1. Have four stations set up before the start of the session
2. Sit pupils on floor
3. Move to four stations around the classroom

Curriculum Links

Citizenship

Preparing to play an active role as citizens

2.e. To realise that people and other living things have needs and they have responsibilities to meet them.

2.g. What improves and harms their local, natural and built environment and about some of the ways people look after them.

Science

Sc2 Life processes and living things

5.c. Care for the environment

Geography

Knowledge and understanding of environmental change and sustainable development

5.a. Recognise changes in the environment.

5.b. Recognise how the environment may be improved and sustained.

Key Vocabulary

Waste	Reuse
Reduce	Recycle
Landfill	Compost
Rubbish	

Key Questions

- What happens to our waste after it's been put in the bin? And when it leaves the school?
- What kinds of waste do we throw away at home?
- Where does it go?
- What can we all do to help recycle?
- What can we all remember to do with our rubbish?
- Should all waste go to the same place?
- What happens to waste when we put it in recycling bins?
- What different processes happen to waste?

