

Science

The Environment

Science | Year 2 | The Environment | Reduce Reuse Recycle



Aim

- I can sort materials into groups for recycling.
- I can suggest ways we can reduce, reuse and recycle.

Success Criteria

- I can identify the material of an object.
- I can sort objects into groups.
- I can give examples of reducing, reusing and recycling.
- I can suggest a way that I can make good decisions about my rubbish.

Think about your day so far. How many things have you thrown in the bin today?

Each person in the UK throws away more than 1kg of rubbish each day.

Over a year, this weighs as much as an adult polar bear!

How many polar bear sized piles of rubbish will this class make in a year?

Where does it all go?



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Sadly some of the rubbish is thrown away on the floor. We call this litter.

Why is it wrong to drop litter on the floor? What problems can it cause?







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Littering is against the law! A person caught throwing litter on the ground can be prosecuted and made to pay a big fine!

Litter can be sharp, dirty or dangerous, and can cause people accidents and illnesses. Litter makes our public spaces look horrible. We want to keep them clean and tidy for everyone to enjoy.

Littering in cities encourages rats and other animals that spread diseases. They eat the food that people leave behind.

Cleaning up litter costs a lot of money that could be used for other important things. Litter is very dangerous for wildlife who can swallow it or get trapped in it. This is especially true at the coast and in the countryside.



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How can we prevent littering?

Always throw your rubbish in the bin! If there is no bin nearby, carry your rubbish carefully until you see one or wrap it in a bag and take it home.



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So, you put all your rubbish in the bin. Well done!

What happens to it now?

Our rubbish gets put into big bins, collected by waste collection lorries and taken for sorting and processing.





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Some of our rubbish is incinerated, which means it is burnt in very hot fires.

Burning the rubbish causes lots of smoke and air pollution which is harmful to plants, animals and people. It leaves behind lots of ash which contains harmful chemicals that damage soil and water.

Burning rubbish also makes more of the greenhouse gases that are causing climate change.



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Some of the waste that we throw away goes into huge rubbish mountains that we call landfill.

Landfill sites are very dirty and unpleasant to look at. They take up a lot of room and release harmful chemicals into the soil, the water and the air.

As we make more and more rubbish each day, the landfill sites grow bigger and bigger. If we carry on putting our rubbish in landfill sites we

will soon run out of room for it all!





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Littering, incinerating and landfill are not good things to do with our waste, as they are harmful to the world around us and the plants, animals and people who live here.

It's very important that we find better things to do with our rubbish that do not harm the environment. This way, we can make the world a pleasant place for everyone.



Reduce, Reuse, Recycle

Luckily, making good choices about what we do with our rubbish is something that all of us can do to help the environment every single day!

Reduce, Reuse, Recycle

Reduce

Try to make less rubbish by cutting down on waste.

Don't buy things you don't need.

Use things until they are worn out instead of buying new things.

Doing this will mean there are fewer things to throw away.

Reuse

When you are finished with something, try to use it again.

If you don't want to use it, maybe someone else does.

Maybe you can use it for something else!

Recycle

Put rubbish in the recycle bin instead of the general waste.

It will be taken away and turned into something new.

Most of our rubbish can be recycled and turned back into something useful.





Reduce, Reuse, Recycle

What ideas have you thought of for reducing, reusing or recycling your waste?

Is it a way of reducing, reusing or recycling?



Reducing



The first step in making good decisions about our waste is to see if we can reduce it.

Reducing means finding ways to create less rubbish in the first place. Then there are fewer things to throw away!

Packed lunches create a lot of waste.

How could you reduce the amount of waste in this lunchbox?

You have 3 minutes to think of as many ideas as you can.

start

Time up!

Reducing



What ideas did you think of for a waste free lunch?

Here are some ways you can reduce the amount of waste that will be left over from your lunch.

Only bring what you need! If you can't finish all your food then you have brought too much.

Pack your sandwiches in a reusable container.

Instead of buying individual packets of snacks, buy a big packet and bring a portion each day. Pack fresh fruit. It doesn't need any other packaging...and it's good for you too!

Bring drinks in a refillable bottle.

If you have any rubbish, make sure you put it in the right bin so it can be recycled.

Reusing

After reducing our waste, the next step in taking good care of our rubbish is to reuse as much as we can.

Many of the things we throw in our rubbish can be used again.

Carrier bags can be reused to carry home your shopping from the supermarket.

Glass jars can be reused to store food in the kitchen.

Old toys, books, clothes and DVDS can be given to someone you know or donated to a charity shop.

Reusing

Many things can be reused by turning them into something else!

These are all things that have been made out of items that people are finished with.







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After you have reduced your waste as much as possible and seen if there is anything you can reuse, you can recycle what's left.

After you have placed your object for recycling in the recycling bin it will be taken away to a recycling factory, shredded into very small pieces and melted down into a liquid or pulp before being used to create something new.



Natural waste like rubbish from the garden, grass cuttings, vegetable peelings and tea bags can be turned into compost. Compost is very good for soil and helps to grow new plants.

Compost

Plastic is shredded and turned into new plastic bottles, garden furniture, even fleece jumpers!



To recycle the rubbish, first we need to sort it into different materials so it can be taken away for processing.

Put each piece of rubbish next to the correct recycling bin.





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Spend one minute thinking of a way you can help to reuse, reduce and recycle over the week ahead.

Explain it to your partner.

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