Teacher's Briefing Sheet

Waste, litter and rubbish are all names we give to things that we have used and don't want anymore. They may be things that are broken or just old. They can be things like food scraps, old clothes, newspapers or broken toys.

Ask students to name some rubbish types commonly found in the classroom, playground and home. Divide the suggested items into the disposal category- recyclables, compost/green waste and general waste

Our rubbish goes to a place called a landfill. At the landfill the rubbish is tipped into a large hole in the ground and covered up with soil.

Discuss with students the life of a landfill and the options we use to make sure that the landfill is viable for the future (Waste Hierarchy- Reduce, Reuse and Recycle).

To make sure that we have landfill space for the future, we have to look at the amount and type of waste that we make.

To help us save space in the landfill, we can look at ways to reduce the amount of waste we create, like reusing items, and recycling those items we can't reuse again.

Introduce the concept of the waste hierarchy. The most favourable option is to reduce waste generation (less resource use), followed by reuse, recycling and finally disposal (loss of resource and embodied energy).

Waste Hierarchy

Reduce	Reducing the amount of waste produced	Most favoured option	A
Reuse	Using items repeatedly	1	
Recycle	Using materials to make new items		
Disposal	Disposal of waste to landfill		Conservation of resources
		Least favoured option	

Reducing, reusing and recycling can help us save the environment. Most of our things are made up of materials from nature.

A glass jar is made from melted sand, while cardboard and paper are made from trees. To make sure that we have beaches and forests in the future, we must reduce, reuse and recycle all that we can.

To help save the environment, firstly we can reduce amount of things we use. For example, if we don't need a new book, not buying it will save the paper for something else, reducing our paper use.

The next best thing to do is to reuse the things we already have. Instead of buying the new book, we can borrow one from the library, sharing the book with everyone else.

Recycling lets us turn old objects into something new again, so once the book is too old to use, we can recycle it into a new book.

Finally, if an item cannot be reused or recycled, the last option is disposal. Disposal often results in the item being buried as landfill, wasting the unrecovered resources.

Colour in the items that can be placed in your recycling bin.





It is important that we put the right things in the recycling bin.

Recycling helps us save energy, water, sand and trees.





We should only put plastic bottles, plastic containers, cans, steel tins, glass bottles, paper and cardboard in the recycling bin.



We can't recycle drinking glasses, broken plates, cups and foil.



If the wrong things are put in the recycling bin, we waste a lot of time sorting it out and the rubbish can break the sorting machines and we have to close down the factory until it is fixed.

So do the right thing and use the right bin!



Draw a line from the recyclables to the items they can be recycled into.

Recyclables

Old newspaper



Glass jars and bottles



PET bottles



Used steel cans





Shampoo and milk bottles





Crushed aluminium cans



New Items

New aluminium can



Plastic recycling bin



New newspaper



Glass bottle



Fleecy Jacket



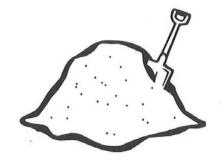
Canned food tins





Draw a line from the natural resource to the item they can be turned into.

Sand mined from beaches



Bauxite mined from the ground



Oil mined from the ground



Trees from a forest



Plastic Bottle



Aluminium Can



Paper



Glass jar

