

Waste Adventures

Suitable for Students in Grades 3 through 6...
and Curious Learners of all Ages!



Where Does Your Garbage Go?

- What happens to waste when you throw it away? Where is “away?”
- In the space provided below, draw the path your waste takes from your home to the landfill. You might need to do some research to find out. This video from Seattle Public Utilities (bit.ly/spu-waste) shows where waste from Seattle ends up; your waste probably makes a similar journey. Don't forget to include recycling in your drawing too!

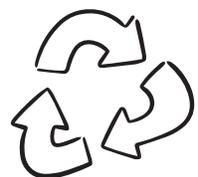
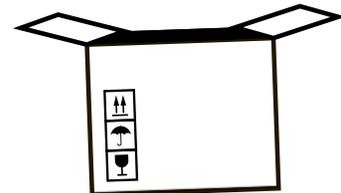
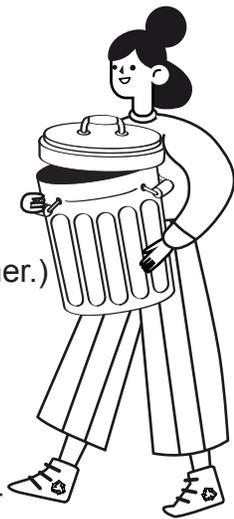


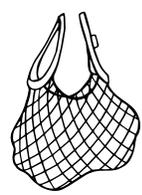
Dumpster Dive Math

1. How many times is your garbage container at home picked up each week?.....
How many times per month?..... How many times per year?.....
Please show your math in the space below.

2. Next, measure or estimate the volume of your garbage container in cubic feet.
(Hint: you will need to know the length, width, and height of a rectangular container.)

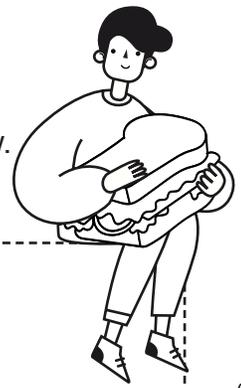
3. Bonus: Assuming your container is full each week, how much garbage does your family produce per year? Show your math!





Enjoy a Zero-Waste Lunch

Brainstorm ways you could make lunch without having to throw anything away. What would you use to pack a zero-waste lunch for school? Draw your lunch below. (Use this resource (bit.ly/zero-waste-clark) from Clark County Green Schools to help plan a zero-waste lunch).



Solving Plastic Pollution

Plastic waste in the ocean harms wildlife. Read this article from National Geographic Kids (bit.ly/natgeo-plastic-ocean) to learn more. Using complete sentences, share three ideas about how to reduce the use of plastic in your own life.



1. _____

2. _____

3. _____



Make your own Bird House!

Upcycling is the practice of using wasted materials to make something new. You can turn an empty milk carton into a bird house.

1. Collect an empty milk carton. Rinse it out.
2. Cut out a big window on one side of the carton (leave an inch on the bottom below the window).
3. Use paint to decorate the outside of your bird house (you may want to cover the entire carton with one color first).
4. Attach a string to the top of your carton so you can hang it outside (you may need a hole punch to make two holes).
5. Insert a small stick just below your window through the carton for the birds to perch on!
6. Hang your bird house somewhere outside.
7. Add some bird seed, if you have it. Observe the birds!

