

Waste Audit Activity Plan

A waste audit is when a class or school gathers up all of the previous day's waste and has a close look at it to see what is being thrown away.

Doing an audit will help you see how much rubbish you make, what types of material you throw away and allow you to measure your improvement. It can also help to improve your school's waste reduction/sustainable development plan for the future.

Resources

- Collect the waste in labelled bags from the day before (E.g. 'year 3 classroom')
- Paper and pencils
- Hand washing facilities
- Use of the hall if possible
- Photocopies of the attached record sheet (Waste 1)
- Gloves
- Table covers or tarpaulins
- Spring balances
- Plastic bags



Workshop outline

- Discuss what happens to rubbish when it goes in the bin.
- Split the children into groups.
- Ensure all children have gloves on before touching the waste.
- Record on the worksheet (Waste 1) who is in the group and which bag they are weighing.
- Weigh the bag and record its weight.
- Tip the waste slowly on to a covered table or tarpaulin.
- Separate the waste into different materials. (E.g. 'paper', fruit/veg waste)
- Weigh each material and record on the worksheet (Waste 1).
- When all waste is weighed and recorded put back in the original bag.
- Get the children to wash hands with gloves on and then with gloves off.

