



## Lesson 1 – Where does our waste go?

### Gold Award – Whole school challenge on waste reduction

#### Aim for the activity:

- Involve and engage the whole school into working together
- Use the knowledge learnt and put it into practice
- Reduce the amount of waste produced
- Help guide the school to becoming a reduced-waste school

#### Curriculum links for this activity:

##### PSHE Living in the wider world

- Respect for self and others and the importance of responsible behaviours and actions
- The importance of respecting and protecting the environment

##### Maths year 5 programme of study – Statistics

- Solve comparison, sum and difference problems using information presented
- Complete, read and interpret information in tables

#### Resources:

- ✓ Produce a recording sheet
- ✓ Graph paper / squared paper
- ✓ Scales of some sort to weigh the waste
- ✓ PowerPoint (includes images)



### **Activity outline:**

To start this activity you could first run a trial waste assessment in your class. Using the sample assessment sheet below, create a recording sheet that you can use when going round the school.

Remember you need to carry out an initial assessment of the school before you do the Silver award, so you can use the information in the assembly. Keep it simple – all you are trying to do is get a general idea of what things are going into the waste bin (or into recycling bins if you have them) and the weight of each bin.

Once you have delivered the morning assembly, give the school a week to put in place any changes they want. You can then start carrying out the assessments. This can be done weekly to ensure you collect systematic data. You could even carry out spot checks at random to keep an eye on what is really happening in the classes / departments! How often and when you carry out the assessments will depend on when the bins are emptied. You may feel that twice a week would give you a better picture due to what happens in the week.

Create a waste team assessment rota, so the responsibility is shared out.

- ❖ You could have one team that does all the assessment one week then rotates round, or
- ❖ Have several teams that each do a different class / department assessment, which again rotates round each week, or
- ❖ Each team has the responsibility for a class / department that they do each time. This may help build a relationship between them, with the team encouraging and mentoring the class and giving suggestions and help to reduce their waste.

### **Duration:**

This activity will continue alongside the overall Rubbish Rebels programme. As each lesson is covered, more information will be learnt and shared to help reduce the waste. The end goal of this waste assessment activity is that you should see a reduction in waste being produced and it will become part of the waste reduction routines in each class / department.

### **Presenting the data:**

- ★ The information recorded needs to be analysed and presented in graphs or charts, whichever is best suited.
- ★ Displaying the information in school: Create a Rubbish Rebels waste reduction score board, so each class can see their score.
- ★ If the score board and graphs can be transferred to the computer, you could start a page on the school website to show the results and share information about reducing waste, such as a news page for parents to look at and hopefully use the information at home.

