

Making a mini landfill site



Aim: To create a mini-landfill site from classroom and lunch box waste; to enable pupils to better understand the problems that are caused by rubbish disposal.

Materials:

- A mixture of rubbish e.g. paper, plastic, fruit peelings, cardboard, etc. This could come from general classroom waste but is good if children can use their lunch leftovers and rubbish from lunch boxes.
- A large clear plastic box with lid (clear so that pupils can see what's going on easily).
- Some soil.
- Gloves to wear when dealing with the rubbish.

What to do:

- Ask pupils to save the packaging and leftovers from their lunch boxes.
- Each pupil should place his or her rubbish in the plastic container.
- Layer the rubbish with some scoops of soil.
- When all the rubbish is in the container place a layer of soil on top of the rubbish. Place the plastic lid over it.
- The class now has their own mini-landfill site.
- Keep the landfill in the classroom, it shouldn't smell, or in a safe place outside for a few weeks whilst you are covering waste topics in class. Each

week have the pupils look through the plastic container and see what types of rubbish are rotting. When the class is finished with the topic of waste safely dispose of the rubbish in the mini-landfill and thoroughly wash the plastic container.