Activity Sheet 1: Waste facts



- The UK produces more than 434 million tonnes of waste every year.
- Every year UK households throw away the equivalent weight of 31/2 million doubledecker buses (almost 30 million tonnes).
- On average, each person in the UK, throws away seven times their body weight (about 500 kg) in rubbish every year.
- On average, every family in the UK consumes around 330 glass bottles and jars a year (British Glass).
- Recycling two bottles saves enough energy to boil water for five cups of tea.
- Every year in the UK, an estimated 10 billion plastic bags are given away by supermarkets. (167 per person)
- 1 litre of oil can pollute 1 million litres of fresh drinking water (Scottish Oil Care Campaign).
- About one fifth of the contents of household dustbins consists of paper and card, of which half is newspapers and magazines. This could easily be recycled.
- Babies' nappies make up about 2% of the average household rubbish. This is equivalent to the weight of nearly 70,000 double decker buses every year. If lined up front to end, the buses would stretch from London to Edinburgh.

Activity Sheet 2: UK waste facts cards



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Activity Sheet 3: Sorting and classifying classroom waste



Total mass of school waste for the year (x the number of classes)							
Total mass of class waste for the school year (x 39)							
Total mass of class waste for one week (9)							
Mass of waste for your group in one week (g)							
Waste Material	Metal	Glass	Paper	Card	Plastic	Other	TOTAL

Activity Sheet 4



Graph to show the estimated waste produced by our school in a year

Plastic Other Metal Glass

ill in y is Scale

The amount of waste (kg)

Types of waste material