

Name _____

Date _____

How Much Do We Throw Away?

Aim

To identify the types of waste thrown away in a classroom rubbish bin.

Materials

- 1 x full classroom rubbish bin
- Gloves

Method

1. Collect a general waste rubbish bin from one of the classrooms in your school.
2. Use tally marks to record the types of waste in the bin using the table provided.
3. Draw, colour and label a column graph to represent the data you collected during the investigation.
4. Design a poster to help students to reduce the amount of waste thrown away in their classrooms.



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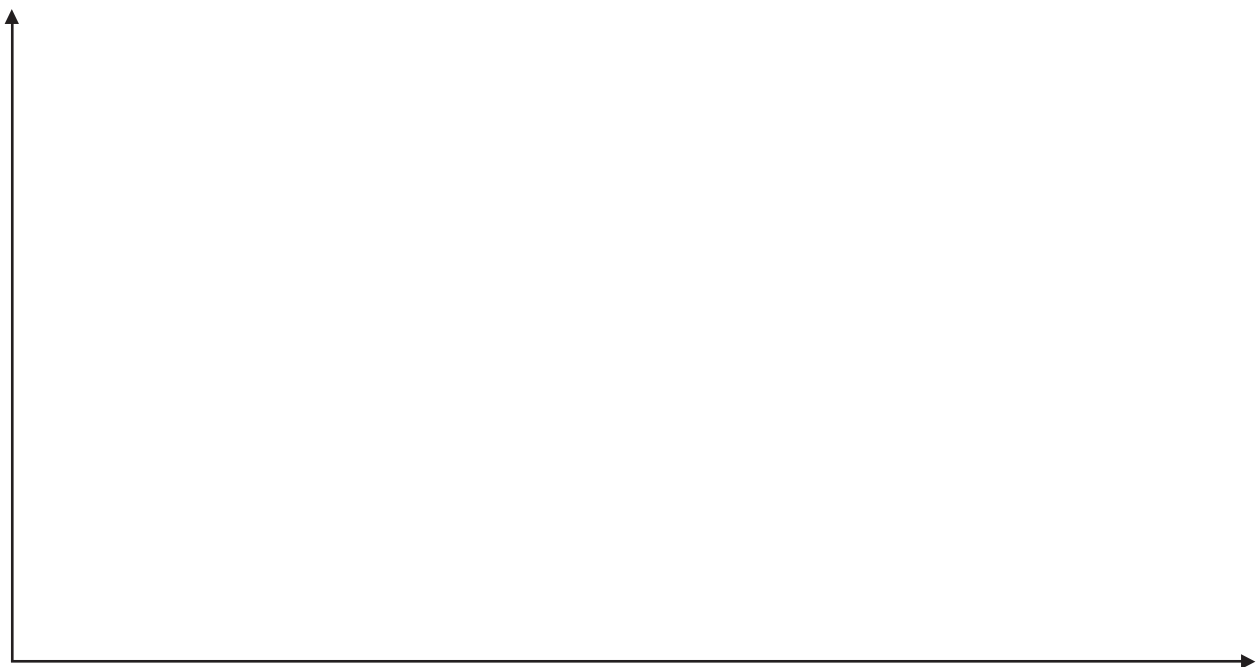
Recording and Presenting Data

In the table below, record the types of waste you find in the classroom bin.

Type of Waste	Tally	Total
food scraps		
food packaging		
plastic drink bottles		
paper/cardboard		
plastic wrap		
stationery items		
other		

On the axis below, draw and colour a column graph to represent the data in your results table. Don't forget to include:

- an appropriate title
- labels for the x and y axis.



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Conclusion and Reflection

1. Which type of waste had the highest total? What factors could have influenced this result?

2. Which type of waste had the lowest total? What factors could have influenced this result?

3. Could any of the waste have been reused? Explain how.

4. Could any of the waste have been recycled? Explain how.

5. What steps could students take to reduce classroom waste?



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Taking Action

Design and create a poster to inform students of the actions they can take to reduce the waste thrown away in a classroom.

You might like to include some of the following ideas:

- reducing waste
- reusing certain materials
- recycling certain materials.

Your poster should be informative, easy to read and visually appealing. These tips might help:

- select and use the most important information
- use clear and concise language
- use subheadings
- use short sentences or bullet points
- use large, clear writing and a simple font
- arrange the information carefully around the page
- include tables, charts, photos, drawings or diagrams where appropriate
- apply a consistent colour scheme
- leave some white space on the poster.

Display your finished poster in the classroom so that everyone can learn your tips for reducing classroom waste!

