



WASTE

INFORMATION SHEET

Do You Know?

Every year we produce about 3% more waste than the year before. This might not sound much but, if we carry on at this rate, it means that we will double the amount of waste we produce every 25 years.

The average UK family throws away 6 trees worth of paper in their household bin a year.

We get through nearly 3 billion disposable nappies each year in the UK. Disposable nappies take 500 years to decompose.

Most plastic shopping bags are used only once and a plastic bag can take more than 100 years to decompose!

Alternatives To Throwing Away Rubbish?

There are a lot of items that we use everyday and then get rid of them by throwing them in the bin. Unfortunately, this results in piles of rubbish as we throw old items, as well as packaging of new items. Reducing solid waste is reducing the amount of rubbish that goes to landfills. Reduce, Reuse and Recycle are most common methods to reduce landfill waste. Landfill waste poses a huge problem as it has economic and environmental impact.

UK households produced 30.5 million tonnes of waste in 2003/04, of which 17% was collected for recycling (defra.gov.uk). This figure is still quite low compared to some of our neighbouring EU countries, some recycling over 50% of their waste. There is still a great deal of waste which could be recycled that ends up in landfill sites which is harmful to the environment.

By changing the way we buy products, by reusing products, and recycling we can drastically reduce the amount of rubbish going to landfill.

What Can We Recycle?

Plastic & Polystyrene
Wood & Chipboard
Soil & Rubble
Metals
Glass Bottles & Plate Glass
Batteries
Green Waste
Paper & Cardboard
Books
Clothes
Electrical Appliances
Plasterboard
Cans
Fluorescent tubes
Ink Cartridges
Carpet
Mattresses

10 Easy Ways To Reduce Landfill Waste

1) Recycle

2) Donate clothes

3) Reuse

4) Reduce food waste

5) Eat healthy, organic food

6) Composting left-over food waste

7) Purchase items made from recycled products

8) Clean smarter



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ACTIVITY SHEET 1

MAKING A BIRD FEEDER

Many containers that we throw away each day can provide endless amounts of fun for children if we use them creatively!

In this activity, we turn a container into a bird feeder.

When reusing any food container, please ensure they are completely clean them before using.

Each bird feeder attracts different sizes and types of birds so it would be worthwhile to research where to locate each bird feeder. Consider what types of bird feed to put into the container,

Birds have very particular diets and are very particular about what they eat!

Resources Required

Knife, spoon, bowl, hammer, nails, sticks, string, assortment of clean containers, lard, seeds, fruit.

This activity will enable children to show care and concern for all living things. For younger children it will help to develop fine motor skills filling and refilling bird feeder. More able children could use the internet to investigate what birds eat. Use a simple photograph key card to identify species of bird.

ACTIVITY

Safety talk, discussion of appropriate tools. Collect ingredients and containers. Clean container and punch holes in the bottom to let water out.

Cut two or three holes in the middle of the jug between two and four inches wide depending on the type of birds you want to attract. Then make smaller holes below the feeding holes for the dwelling rod.

Take each rod and insert it into the smaller hole for a perch. Attach string to secure it to the tree then mix the chosen ingredients and fill the feeder.

Let the mixture harden in the container then hang in your chosen tree.



0—2 Suggestions

Consider the impact of the use of disposable nappies in the setting and parents should be encouraged to consider alternatives. Through community and parent partnership the setting should adopt a cloth nappy philosophy taking a transformative approach.

Use old bottles, pots, and pans in your setting to demonstrate to children that items can be reused and have alternative purposes.