

# #EcoSchoolsAtHome

## Waste

### Parents/Pupils/Teachers

Thanks to our last national school waste survey we were able to gather lots of useful information about the issues facing schools in relation to the recycling and disposal of waste. One of the biggest barriers we discovered, was that the school community were often unaware of what could (or couldn't) be recycled in school. We are now delighted to launch our follow up Waste #EcoSchoolsAtHome survey to be completed by parents, pupils, teachers and any other members of the school community. Completing our survey is a great way of encouraging pupils, parents and staff to think about how they could work together on our Waste Topic (it also provides great evidence for Eco-Schools Step 5: Informing and Involving). This survey allows the Eco-Schools team to gain valuable insights into how we can encourage more recycling in schools throughout England. So task 1 in this weeks' Waste #EcoSchoolsAtHome work is to complete our Waste Survey (link below)—it is quick to complete and will help Eco-Schools throughout England recycle even more—thank you!

## Complete Waste Survey

## Recycle

### Nursery

Have a recycling quiz! Ask a parent or guardian to gather rubbish for a day, rather than putting it straight in the bin. When a good amount of rubbish has been collected, have a recycling quiz seeing if you and other members of your household can guess the correct bin for each item e.g. cereal box—cardboard recycling.

### Primary

Use the internet to research what can be recycled in your local area (you can do this by searching the name of your local authority + recycling), your local authority should have guidance for which bin to use in your area. When you have completed your research, share your findings with other members of your household and check your bins to see if you have been correctly recycling!

### Secondary/College

Use the internet to research what can be recycling in your local area (you can do this by searching the name of your local authority + recycling). When you have done this, research further recycling tips (e.g. if you flatten boxes more can fit in each bin, meaning more can fit in each collection saving petrol). When your research is complete, tell other members of your household how to recycle efficiently.

<https://www.pinterest.co.uk/ecoschoolsengla/waste-topic/>



# Waste



## Reduce

### Nursery

Last week in our [Transport #EcoSchoolsAtHome](#) work, you looked at where your food travels from. This week, we're going to make sure it wasn't a wasted journey! Check the use by dates on items of food in your fridge and help a parent or guardian plan your lunch and dinner so no food is wasted.

### Primary

Last week in our [Transport #EcoSchoolsAtHome](#) work, you looked at where your food travels from. This week, we're going to make sure it wasn't a wasted journey! Check the use by dates on items of food in your fridge and find a recipe, that you can help an adult to cook, which uses food items that may otherwise go past their use by date.

### Secondary/College

Last week in our [Transport #EcoSchoolsAtHome](#) work, you estimated your diet's carbon footprint. This week your task is to try and reduce your footprint by minimizing food waste. Check the use by dates of food items in your fridge, then research recipes you could create (with permission) to help minimise your food waste e.g. banana bread is a current lockdown trend!

## Rethink

### Nursery

At Eco-Schools we love creating art from recycled material—your task is to create a sculpture or piece of art made from recycled materials. If you need some inspiration our amazing friends at RSPB have [guides for creating bug, birds and woodland artwork](#).

### Primary

Our amazing friends at RSPB have fantastic guides for creating your own bird feeders using recycled materials. Use their design to create your own bird feeders using a [plastic bottle](#) (make sure you ask an adult for help before beginning). Whilst you're on their website you might also like to check out some of their other [Wild Challenges](#)!

### Secondary/College

Politicians are currently debating whether the general public will need to wear face coverings when lockdown ends. Creating your own face covering, rather than buying new face coverings, is a great way of repurposing old clothing. Use this [BBC guide](#) (which includes three different designs) to create your own face mask.

## Donate

### Nursery/Primary/Secondary/College

Donating old clothes, books, toys or games is great! It is better for the environment, helps others in need, declutters your bedroom and helps to protect our natural resources and the planet. All of these combine to make you feel great when you donate because you know you're doing something for a good cause. Take an hour out of your day to look through your belongings and see if there is anything you no longer use that you could donate, maybe set yourself a target like filling a tote bag. When lockdown is over, you can give your donations to a friend, relative or local charity shop (with adult permission of course). You could even begin planning a (Re)LoveOurStuff project in school (see Eco-Schools website Waste topic pages).

