

# Garbology Lite



## Overview of the programme

Welcome to Garbology Lite, an educational programme filled with fun and interactive activities for the classroom available for free on our website. The provided activities are perfect both as stand alone activities or complementary within other subjects such as Science, English and Math. The activities develop knowledge on sustainable consumption and responsible waste management while promoting communication, reading, critical thinking, and creative skills.

## Resources

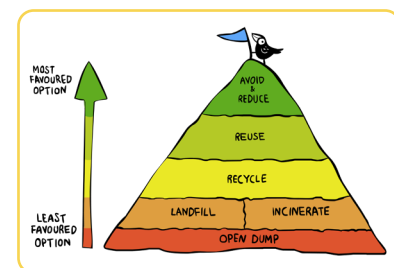
- 13 teacher lesson plans
- Handouts for the students

## Lesson details



### Lesson 1: Introduction to Solid Waste

This interactive lesson introduces the topic of waste to the students. The aim is for students to understand that waste is a complex topic, which needs to be managed properly. They will discover the different categories of waste and learn several fun facts.



### Lesson 2: How Long Does Trash Last?

This lesson teaches students about what happens to the stuff they throw away. They will find out how long things take to break down in landfill, and what speeds up or slows down the process. Your students can test their skills and knowledge by competing against each other to figure out how long certain things take to break down.



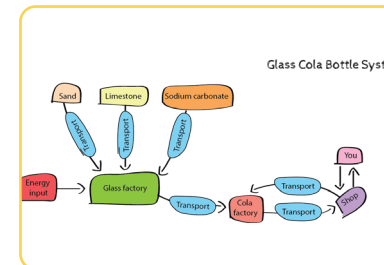
### Lesson 3: Waste Relay Race

This interactive lesson is built around an outside the classroom game, which teaches the students about separating waste, so that it can be recycled. Through running fast, working together and having fun playing, the children are empowered to manage their waste.



### Lesson 4: Less Packaging

In this lesson students learn about why packaging is so important and what it has to do with waste. They will put their skills to the test while finding out more about different food and beverage items and their packaging. Students will also learn how their choices of what they buy every day and how it is packed has a direct influence on the amount of waste produced.



### Lesson 5: Map My Soft Drink

In this classroom activity the students learn about how soft drinks are made and packed and what happens to it after they finish drinking it. Understanding the connection of packaging, resources and pollution, students learn that their behaviour has an impact and that they hold the power to making a change.



### Lesson 6: Spot the Batteries

This lesson focuses on batteries, what they allow us to do, where they can be found, what they are made of and how they are a dangerous type of waste. The information provided empowers the students to make conscious changes discarding and using batteries to save the environment from pollution.



### Lesson 7: Follow that Bottle

This activity is built around a story, which explains the concept of recycling in an interactive fun way. Children discover the journey of a plastic bottle once they finished using it.



### Lesson 8: Timeline of Stuff

This lesson is built around a fun activity, where all the students explore the history of where materials, which they use every day like paper, plastic, glass, metal and organic matter, come from. Through creating a huge timeline, the students learn about the roles these materials play in their lives and the impact on their environment.



### Lesson 9: Litter Clean Up

In this three class period activity students are encouraged to actively work together to lead by example creating a beautiful litter free environment around their school campus. They will become the change they want to see inspiring their community to keep their environment clean and healthy.



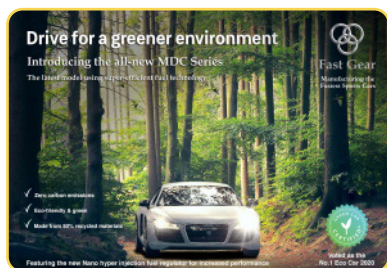
### Lesson 10: Garbology Nidra

This classroom activity allows the children to establish a deeper connection to a beautiful world, free from pollution and waste. Through a deep relaxation exercise based on 'Awareness Through the Body' the children are guided to envision an ideal world and expressing what they see and how they feel through art.



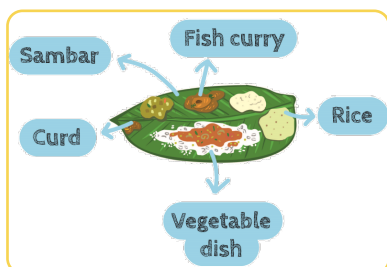
### Lesson 11: Introduction to Plastics

In this lesson students learn about the secret language of plastics through discovering how to identify unsafe and safe plastics that they use in their daily lives inspiring them to be a part of the solution to plastic pollution.



### Lesson 12: Greenwashing

This lesson teaches students on how companies and organisations use 'Greenwashing' to make their company, products and services seem environmentally friendly when in reality they are not. Through learning 10 signals on advertising students can become conscious consumers and shop products that are good for the environment.



### Lesson 13: Impact Of Stuff

In this classroom activity students learn about where their food and other consumer goods come from, the resources it takes to make them and what impact they have on everything around them. The lesson includes the creation of a web diagram to calculate and discover the ecological footprint.

## Understanding the Materials

**Introduction to Solid Waste**  
Age group: 6-15

This is the first interactive lesson in Garbology introducing the topic of waste to students. The aim is for students to understand that waste is a complex topic, which needs to be managed properly. They will discover the different categories of waste and learn several fun facts.

**Objectives:**

- Conduct an interactive discussion on waste
- Identify the different categories of waste
- Compare the linear and cyclical systems
- Learn fun facts about waste

**Preparation:**  
Read the information provided in the activity  
Familiarise yourself with all the steps and examples discussed.

**Instructions:**  
Explain to the students that we are studying Garbology, a programme on waste.

**1 Question round (10-15 minutes):**  
Start the lesson with a general question round on 'What is waste?' Encourage students to come up with their own definitions of 'waste'. Write all answers on the blackboard (refer to the mind map below).

**Participants:**  
Whole class

**Materials:**

- Blackboard
- Students need a Rotobook and pen/pencil to take notes

**Duration:**  
1 class period (approximately 35-45 minutes)

**Skills used:**  
Communication  
Critical thinking  
Comprehension

**Subjects:**  
General  
Science  
English

**Objectives:** what students understand and know at the end of the lesson

**Participants:** who can take part in the lesson and activity

**Materials:** what you will need to conduct the lesson and activity

**How Long Does Trash Last?**  
Age group: 11-15

Did you ever wonder what happens to the stuff you throw away? Find out how long things take to break down in a landfill, and what speeds up or slows down the process. Lots of stuff we throw away lasts a very long time and can take many generations to decompose. Test your skills and knowledge and compete against each other to figure out how long certain things take to break down.

**Objectives:**

- Learn about the waste hierarchy and the best options to manage waste
- Understand the difference between landfills and open dumps
- Discover how long experts think it takes different types of waste to break down/decompose
- Learn the factors involved in the breakdown/decomposition of waste in the environment and in landfills

**Preparation:**  
You will need to make photocopies of the handout for students so that each group in your class gets their own copy. Feed the answers on your 'teacher's cheat sheet'.

**Instructions:**

**1 Question round (5-10 minutes):**

- How many kilos of waste are produced in India every day?
- Where does all this waste go? (Answer: landfill, dumping, burning)
- What happens to all this waste?
- Where does all this garbage go? (Answer: landfill, dumping, burning)
- What do you think is the best option to deal with waste? (Answer: refer to the waste hierarchy below)

Allow students to come up with their own answers.

**Participants:**  
Groups  
Whole class

**Materials:**

- Handout for students (A3 printed)
- Teacher's cheat sheet (A4 printout)
- Recycle & arrows for students
- Blackboard

**Duration:**  
1-2 class period(s). If needed, split the class between steps 4 and 5:  
1st class period steps 1-4 (approximately 45 minutes)  
2nd class period steps 5-6 (approximately 30 minutes)

**Skills used:**  
Classification  
Calculation  
Problem solving  
Communication

**Subjects:**  
Math  
Science

**Duration:** how long the lesson and activity will take

**Skills used:** capacities engaged by the students

**Subjects:** learning in these subjects is included

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