

# Types of waste



ZERO WASTE  
ACTIVITY



Where have we come  
from and what do we  
know now?

This activity is a sorting and classifying game you can create and use anytime for stimulating discussion and thoughts about waste. Add your learning to your **Pool of Knowledge** to help grow your understandings of waste.

## You will need

- A set of the 'Types of Waste' cards printed out onto card, or
- Multiple examples of paper, plastics, metals, batteries, glass, textiles and pictures of food and garden waste, or
- Tip out the class rubbish/ recycling bin/ lunchboxes and use the real thing (check health and safety factors first).

## Method

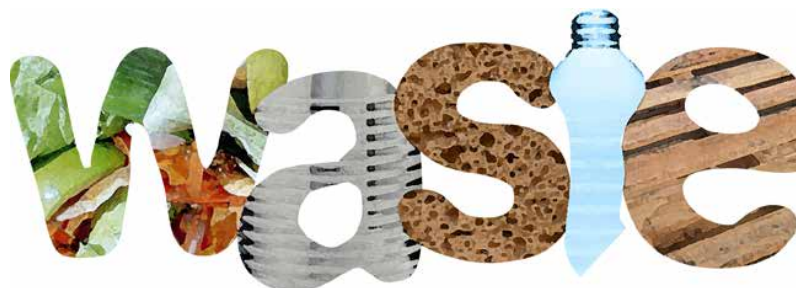
1. Set out the waste examples and gather your class in a large circle around them.
2. Take a moment to look and scan all of the types of waste.
3. Are there any 'categories' of things that stand out? Record everyone's thoughts.
4. Form groups and sort the waste examples into 'like' categories. For example: food waste, green garden waste, paper, recyclable plastic, non-recyclable plastic, glass, metal, aluminium, other.
5. Introduce the terms 'organic/ biodegradable', and 'inorganic/ non-biodegradable'. Which types of waste are they? Move the examples of waste or cards around into these two categories.
6. Discuss what might happen to different waste. What types of waste could you: Reduce, or avoid creating? Re-use again? Recycle? Move the examples of waste or cards again into these categories. What's left? Is it possible to 'Rethink' these items?

## Reflection/ Pūmahara

What types of waste are commonly found in your Enviroschool?

Were there any surprises about the types of waste?

What happens to the different types of waste found in your Enviroschool? In your home?



# Types of waste cards



Apple



Banana



Food can



Sandwich



Crackers



Chippie Packet

Yoghurt pottle / squeeze packet



Newspaper



School newsletter



Muesli bar wrapper



Paper



Cling film

Milk bottle



Plastic water bottle



Glass bottle



Aluminium can



Plastic toys



Lawn clippings



Garden waste



Battery



Clothing in lost property box



Cardboard raisin packet



Leaves



Sushi container or plastic sandwich packet

## Types of waste category cards

food waste	green garden waste	paper
recyclable plastic	non-recyclable plastic	glass
metal	aluminium	other
organic/ biodegradable	inorganic/ non-biodegradable	reduce
re-use	recycle	rethink