

# Waste Scientists Take home sheet

I'm taking part in a Waste Scientists activity to learn about reducing waste. Can you help me find out what we recycle - and how we might do more?

#### Part 1: Investigate

Help me find out what our family can recycle. We can visit our local council's website or go to

www.recyclenow.com and enter our postcode. Next, help me find out what our family actually does recycle! Each day help me take a look in the dustbin and the recycling bin. Don't let me touch anything inside as this could be dangerous.

If you don't want to do that, just help me keep an eye on what people throw away and recycle. I need to record my results on page 2.

### Part 2: Take action

Help me call a family meeting and discuss my findings. It's simple: **Recycling helps protect the world around us, stops waste ending up as landfill, saves energy and stops natural habitats from being lost.** ... and everyone in our family can take some simple actions to create less waste:

- Reduce: Think before you buy anything. Do we really need it? Will it last? Can we get it with less packaging?
- Reuse: Before you put something in the bin, think about whether you – or someone else – could reuse it instead.
- Recycle: Make sure everyone knows what can be recycled. Help everyone use our doorstep recycling service.



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- Recycling just 1 plastic bottle can save the energy needed to power a 60 watt light bulb for 6 hours
- Approximately £140 million worth of used clothing goes to landfill in the UK every year
- In 2011 we used 8 billion carrier bags, or 254 bags per second, #BreaktheBagHabit
- Every year in the UK we use 13 billion steel cans which placed end to end would stretch to the moon three times!

Sources: 1 Environment Agency; 2. WRAP; 3 Keep Britain Tidy; 4 Steel Can Recycling Information Bureau

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### How many of these do we recycle at home?

Help your child find out how and what you recycle. Don't worry – you don't need to share this with anyone! You can recycle all of these things! Find out how many of them you recycle at home. Don't reach in the bin!



Put a big tick next to anything you do recycle



Put a red circle around things you should recycle, but you don't

If you can't recycle some items in your area, don't worry just cross them out.



### Help me get creative and re-use it!

I need to think of a great way to re-use something we would normally recycle or put in the bin. Keep out some examples of what we recycle. Make sure they are clean and safe for me to handle. Help me create my idea or draw it on paper and take it into school!

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