

Lesson Plan

How can we reduce food waste?

Year Group: 3-6

National curriculum: Geography - trade links and distribution of natural resources; Design technology - understand the origins of food and seasonality; Science - understand how the environment can change and the impacts it has; English - writing for instructional purpose.

Summary: In this lesson, students will learn about the environmental impact of food waste and research ways to reduce it. They will produce a 'how to' guide to share with the school community.

Prior knowledge required:

Students need to have an understanding of the environmental impact of food waste. They should also be confident in researching information and producing a fact file.

Lesson objective: To explain how food waste can be reduced.

Success criteria:

- I can explain what food waste is.
- I can explain the impact food waste has on the environment.
- I can explain how food waste can be reduced.

Resources needed:

Laptops with access to the following websites

[NLWA - Food Waste](#)

[NLWA - Education Hub](#)

[Eat Like a Londoner](#)

[Friends of the Earth](#)

Please note that NLWA are not responsible for the content of external links. We encourage you to check the content of the links ahead of the lesson.

Lesson outline

Slide 3: Explain the key vocabulary with students to ensure understanding.

Slide 4-5: Ask students to tell their partner why food waste is harmful to the environment. Answers (on slide 5) could include: the loss of natural resources; carbon emissions due to production/transportation; methane released from livestock and from decomposition of food.

Slide 6: The United Nations set goals that they wanted all the world governments to work towards and achieve by 2030. They wanted to reduce our food waste by half! Allow time for students to discuss how food waste could be reduced. There may be a discussion why people waste food and often it is because they buy too much, they store it incorrectly, food going mouldy, confusion over use by/best before or imperfect fruit/veg.

Slide 7-8: Introduce task and show students the various websites. Allow 15 minutes to research and 45 minutes to produce how to guide. For students in Year 3-4, there are questions to guide their research.

Slide 9: Summary slide - ask students to tell their partner one way they are going to try and reduce their own food waste.

Follow-up activities:

- Write a letter to the government to tell them why and how food waste can be reduced.
- Create a food storage experiment to test the best ways to store food.