

# Developmental Play Activity Overview

## *Sorting Plastic*



**Year Group/s:** EYFS

**EYFS Curriculum Framework Links:**

- Physical Development
- Understanding the World
- Communication and Language
- Mathematics

**Summary:**

This activity will have students engage in role play, where children act out the plastic sorting process that happens within a recycling centre. They will be able to practice counting, sorting, and decision making as they work their way through play-based waste materials.

**Prior Knowledge required:**

- What plastic is – a material used for a lot of things
- Different bins – knowing that most plastic gets recycled.
- Types of plastic – from clingfilm, to takeaway containers to bags

**Learning objective:**

To make choices when sorting plastic

- I can sort the different types of plastic
- I can identify hard plastics and soft plastics
- I can identify which plastics are opaque, translucent and transparent

**Prepare before the lesson:**

- A range of different plastic types
- Sorting bins – opaque, translucent, transparent AND/OR hard/soft plastic

**Optional:**

- Fluro high visibility jackets for the student to wear as they get to character
- Hard hat safety helmet
- Protective eye wear
- Magnifying glass

**Activity Outline:**

1. Students enter the play area and discover a tub filled with lots of different types of plastic
2. Before they begin sorting, they will put on their safety gear, including high visibility vests, safety goggles, and helmets, to prepare for their role as waste sorting experts.
3. Once ready, students will sort the materials into the appropriate bins, for example, all opaque plastic in one bin, all transparent plastic in another.
4. As they sort and make decisions, teachers will ask guiding questions, encouraging students to justify their choices by naming, classifying, and explaining the different waste materials.