

Litter and Waste Lesson Plan

Reducing Litter and Waste



AUSTRALIAN CURRICULUM LINKS:

Year 7 Geography

Place and Liveability: The influence of environmental quality on the liveability of places (ACHGK044)

Year 7 Design and Technologies

Knowledge and Understanding: Investigate the ways in which products, services and environments evolve logically, regionally and globally and how competing factors including social, ethical and sustainability considerations are prioritised in the development of technologies and designed solutions for preferred futures (ACTDEK029)

Year 8 Geography

- Landscapes and Landforms: Human causes and effects of landscape degradation (ACHGK051)
- Landscapes and Landforms: Ways of protecting significant landscapes (ACHGK052)
- Changing Nations: Management and planning of Australia's urban future (ACHGK059)

Objectives

Students will be able to:

- Explain the cause of litter and waste on the environment
- Understand the negative impacts on the environment
- Suggest strategies in response to litter in school

TIME REQUIRED:

55 minutes

Post and Prior Learning:

Prior Learning: Students should already know what litter and waste are. They should be able to identify examples of litter and waste from their daily lives.

Post Learning: Students will be able to explain the interconnections within environments and between people and places. They will be able to explain how litter and waste change places and environments.

Resources Required

<https://education.abc.net.au/home#!/digibook/2597026/war-on-waste>

TEACHING AND LEARNING STRATEGIES:

1 Introduction (10 minutes)

Students bring a piece of waste they were planning to throw in the bin. For example, an apple core, fast food wrappers, paper cups, plastic bottles. Students examine the waste and imagine its life cycle. They should write down the life cycle in steps from now to how it ends up in waste/litter. Teachers should facilitate class discussion.

2 Body (20 minutes)

Case study: Students watch the documentary about 'War on Waste'. Teachers should show chapters 3-5. Students should actively watch the videos and answer set questions. The teacher should facilitate class discussion after videos.

War on Waste: <https://education.abc.net.au/home#!/digibook/2597026/war-on-waste> [1]

Questions:

1. Why are thicker plastic bags worse for the environment?
2. Are 100% degradable plastic bags better for the environment? Provide reasons.
3. What are the estimates of plastic in oceans by 2050?
4. Which animals are the most impacted from plastic in oceans?
5. What are the numbers of turtles and Australian seabird species that have plastic in their guts?
6. What do fish mistake for food?

3 Conclusion (25 minutes)

Video Task: Imagine you are a news correspondent reporting about litter and waste. In groups, students create a short video about the litter and waste in school. They should highlight the litter hotspots in the school, identify the negative impacts they have caused around the school and develop solutions to decrease litter and waste at school. Students should present their video to the class.

Note: This could be continued into the following lesson or completed as an assessment.

4 Further Reflection / Homework (optional)

REFERENCES

1. ABC Education. War on Waste [Internet]. Australia: Australian Broadcasting Corporation and Educational Services; 2014 [cited 2020 September 26]. Available from: <https://education.abc.net.au/home#!/digibook/2597026/war-on-waste>