**Key Stage Two**

**Litter pick and sort**

**NC references**

**Maths**

* Interpret bar charts and pictograms
* Use pie charts

**Science**

Working scientifically

* recording data and results of increasing complexity: tables, bar graphs and pie charts
* using test results to make predictions to set up further comparative tests
* reporting and presenting findings from enquiries, including conclusions, causal relationships and explanations of and degree of trust in results, in oral and written forms such as displays and other presentations

Materials

* Classify materials according to a variety of properties

**Learning objectives**

To count and sort objects

To create and interpret bar charts, pictograms or pie charts

To consider the impact of plastic litter and how waste might be reduced

**Teaching ideas**

**Predict**

The children are going to collect litter or sort litter from a school bin. Before the activity, ask children to predict what materials they might find.

Children could record their own predictions, you could scribe class predictions on flipchart paper or, using a voting system, children could identify the type of material that they think they will collect/ find most of.

Compare the results of the litter sort with the children’s predictions.

**Investigate**

Complete a litter collection, either by a local litter pick\* or by sorting waste from classroom/ playground bins.

Ask children to sort the litter according to the material they are made of.

Children could compare the materials in classroom bins with those in the playground bins. Are they different? How? Why?

*\*NB: Ensure that a risk assessment is carried out if children are collecting litter off-site and that necessary precautions of gloves and litter pickers are used if necessary. Ensure that children wash hands after handling litter.*

**Record**

There are a range of ways that this could be recorded.

On paper/ using ICT:

Tally the number of different materials collected. Use a template or encourage independence by asking the children to create their own recording method.

Use the tally to complete a pictogram of their results, using the appropriate key.

Use a spreadsheet program to create a bar chart or pie chart of the litter pick results.

**Resources**

Litter

Tally/ bar chart/ pictogram template if necessary

Blank spreadsheet template for entering litter data

**Next steps**

Ask questions about the litter:

Which is the most/ least common material?

Which materials could we recycle?

* Does everything that we find need to be thrown away? Could it be reused?
* Present the findings to the School Council/ Headteacher with ideas for reducing waste.
* How could we reduce the amount that is thrown away? (bringing reusable pots etc.)
* Are the bins in the playground/ classroom suitable? How could we encourage people to recycle their waste?
* Find out what happens to the waste when it is collected through videos/ presentations.
* Compare litter thrown away by each class. Who throws away the most/ least? Encourage other classes to reduce the waste (especially plastic) that they throw away.
* Launch a campaign to reduce the amount of plastic waste in the school. Repeat the litter pick/ sort investigation after a period of time and compare the results. Has the amount of plastic waste reduced?