



KEY STAGE 2 ACTIVITIES

LITTER ISSUES

Length of session

2 Hours

Group size

30 children

Aims

To understand what litter is and what problems it can cause

To take part in a litter pick and understand the benefit this will have to the community

Summary of Activities

In small groups / pairs, ask the students to see if they can define the term litter and ask them to write it down. Ask them to see if they can list different types of litter. Then get them to feedback their ideas to the rest of the class for discussion.

Either as a class or in smaller groups (with time to feedback ideas), discuss problems relating to litter. For example: fly tipping, chewing gum, dog fouling etc.

Then discuss local problem areas. Using copies of local maps of the school and surrounding area ask the students to identify areas that they feel have a regular problem with litter. It may be that a green area always has dog waste present, or a local shopping area is regularly filled with fast food litter or you may wish to focus on the school grounds. You can colour code the different types of litter to clearly show the area and the type of waste or litter.

Using this investigation, select an area to go for a litter pick.

- Ensure the relevant Health and Safety checks have been carried out first in accordance with school and local authority guidelines.
- Ensure you have all the necessary equipment; litter pickers and high visibility can be loaned from your local council. [More information can be found on the Suffolk Recycling litter picking webpage.](#)
- Ensure all students and staff are appropriately dressed for the activities.



After the litter pick

Discuss what the students found on the litter pick either in groups or as a whole class. Draw up a list of points the students feel are important and revisit the issues that were discussed earlier and ask them to see if they can come up with ways to tackle that problem.

You can continue the activity by asking the children to produce a poster, leaflet or presentation about what they have learnt and how to prevent littering. This can be done as a group or individual activity.

Resources

Available from your local district council:

- Litter pickers
- High visibility tabards

[More information can be found on the Suffolk Recycling litter picking webpage.](#)