



Catch a fly-tipper

This activity plan highlights the importance of sustainably managing our natural resources, focusing on the topic of fly-tipping and the impact that illegal disposal of waste can have on the environment, local community and economy.



Natural Resources Wales' purpose is to pursue the sustainable management of natural resources in all of its work. This means looking after air, land, water, wildlife, plants and soil to improve Wales' well-being, and provide a better future for everyone.

Objectives

By the end of this activity learners will be able to:

- Explain what fly-tipping is
- List reasons why fly-tipping may occur
- Categorise household items that are commonly fly-tipped

Duration of session

1 hour

Location

Setting grounds

Curriculum area

ESDGC
Geography

Curriculum links

KS2 ESDGC

Consumption and waste

That waste can cause pollution
Where the things people consume come from and go to

KS2 Geography

Locating places, environments and patterns

Identify and locate places and environments using globes, atlases, and maps

Study

Living in my world: caring for places and environments and the importance of being a global citizen

KS3 ESDGC

Consumption and waste

Appreciate the actions required to reduce their own ecological footprint and to minimise waste

KS3 Geography

Study

Tomorrow's citizens: issues in Wales and the wider world of living sustainably and the responsibilities of being a global citizen

Equipment and resources

- Audio recording of report (downloadable)
 - Evidence letter
 - Report sheet: Incident
 - Report sheet: Evidence
- You will also need:
- 3 x map of activity location, marked to show fly-tipping
 - 3 bags of rubbish
 - Gloves
 - Clipboards and pencils

What to do

Pre-activity setup

- This activity requires you to collect 3 bags of waste that can be hidden in different areas. Each bag must contain a variety of different materials including plastic, metal and paper. All items need to be clean and have no sharp edges.
- Plant the *Evidence Letter* implicating “James Richards” in each bag as this letter can be used as evidence when the group try and work out where the rubbish might have come from. You might also want to include additional evidence such as birthday or Christmas cards addressed to James.
- Prior to the start of the activity hide the three waste bags in different locations in the grounds, marking the location of one bag per map.

Activity

- Ask the group if they know what fly-tipping is? Explain that fly-tipping is the illegal dumping of waste. Discuss with the group if they have ever seen waste dumped where it shouldn't have been? What was the waste? Where was it?
- Explain that there's been a report that waste has been dumped in the grounds of your setting and that they will need to help investigate the incident.
- Divide into 3 groups, giving each group a clipboard, *Incident* report sheet, *Evidence sheet* and gloves.
- Instruct each group to write their names or a name for the group in the “Group Name” box on the *Incident* report sheet.
- Explain that you will play the telephone call that reported the fly-tipping incident. As the recording plays each group will have to listen carefully to the message and use the information from the phone call to complete the *Incident* report sheet. In the “Time” box the groups should write the time they heard the message.

- Play the audio recording of report.
- Before going any further discuss;
 - What are the potential dangers of investigating fly-tipping? (Possible sharp objects, can be dirty – we may not know what it is or where it's come from).
 - Explain that they shouldn't investigate fly-tipped waste at home, but report it to their local authority. Further information on who to report fly-tipping incidents to can be found on the Fly-tipping Action Wales website www.flytippingactionwales.org/en/report-incident
- Explain that there are 3 separate locations where fly-tipping has occurred and hand each group a map of the grounds showing them where to look.
- Using their map each group should find their fly-tipping site.
- Weather depending, bags can either be opened outside or brought back inside to investigate further.
- Wearing gloves the group should go through the bag of deposited waste. While doing so they should fill in the *Evidence* report sheet. As part of this they will need to sort the waste into different categories such as plastic, metal and paper, and tally the material in the bag. They should also make a note of any evidence that may suggest where the waste has come from. At this point the groups should find the planted letter with a name and address.
- Discuss what this evidence shows, and what the next step should be if they were to carry on with the investigation.
- They should decide that they would need to go to the address to speak to James Richards and confirm that this was his waste. They would then need to question James Richards to find out if he dumped the waste in the grounds himself or if he gave his waste to someone else, and if so who?

- When giving waste to a company to dispose of on your behalf, you must ensure that they have a suitable licence that allows them to take away your waste.
- Further discussion can be held on what should have been done with these items? Why would someone have dumped the waste in the grounds? Can the waste be recycled/ reused? Do the learners recycle these items at home?
- Discuss how it made them feel to hear waste was dumped here?
- Remind them that if they see fly-tipped waste not to investigate it themselves but to report it to their local council.
- Explain to the group if you are caught fly-tipping you can be fined up to £50,000 and even sent to prison.

Suggested key questions

- What type of waste might you find fly-tipped?
- Why do you think people fly-tip?
- What could happen to people who fly-tip?
- What should you do if you find any fly-tipping?

Adapting for different needs/abilities

Less able:

- Investigate the incident as a larger group with more assistance from the group leader.

More able:

- After handing out maps showing the location of the fly-tipped waste, ask the group to estimate the distance to the waste.

Follow up activity/extension

Try out our other waste activities:

- *Long lasting litter*
- *Newspaper snippets*
- *Waste and fly-tipping glossary game*
- *The 3 C's of littering and fly-tipping*
- *Turtle minesweeper*
- *Did you know?*

Additional information

Organisations like Fly-Tipping Action Wales exist to help raise awareness and combat fly-tipping which can have a damaging effect on communities and the environment. Natural Resources Wales, Local Authorities and the Police are often involved with investigating fly-tipping incidents; anyone caught fly-tipping can be fined up to £50,000 and even sent to prison.

Further information on fly-tipping can be found on the Fly-tipping Action Wales website, including information on where to report an incident or find a licenced waste carrier

www.flytippingactionwales.org/en/



Alternative format; large print or another language, please contact:
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www.naturalresourceswales



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