

Primary School Litter resource pack

Welcome to



We can reduce litter together!



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LITTER PATROL...

Introduction

Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council alongside Keep It Tidy Volunteers spend a lot of time collecting litter each year.

We are committed to reducing the litter issue in the county and tackling it at source by educating everyone not to drop litter.

We believe that by educating children during this stage in their lives, that issues in the future will be reduced.

This pack contains a range of resources for you to use.

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Curriculum links

English: Persuasive and report writing, poetry, debate, drama, story telling, class discussions, presentations (assemblies) questioning and interviewing techniques

Maths: Litter surveys, data collection, tally charts, graphs, counting, weighing and measuring

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Geography: Mapping litter in the school grounds or local area, impact of litter on the local area, use and conservation of resources

Science: Materials and manufacturing processes, compost and decay, habitats, impacts of litter on the environment, pollution

History: Changes in litter over time—why is there more litter nowadays? Interviews with older local residents

Religion/ Citizenship: Moral issues, caring for others and the environment, opinions of other people, caring for wildlife

How to organise a school litter pick

Aims:

- To clear your school grounds or local area of litter
- Involve all pupils in positive community action
- Instil environmental awareness and responsibility for local area

Planning:

- How many classes involved? How many adults?
- Where will you go school grounds only or in the local area?
- Get in touch with us, the local council, as we have a range of equipment that can be borrowed and can arrange collection of bags if picking outside of the school grounds
- If picking within the school grounds, instruct your caretaker not to pick litter for a day or so before the event
- Remind children to wear appropriate clothing and footwear on the day
- How long will the lesson last—one hour is plenty if in the school grounds, longer may be needed for the local area
- How will the litter be disposed of – if picking in the school grounds then you will need to dispose of it along with your normal waste. How much of it could be recycled? If picking outside the school grounds, contact us to arrange collection of the bagged litter
- Write a risk assessment - see page 5 for more information on this

Resources:

- Gloves and/or litter pickers for everyone
- Bags consider separate bags for recyclable items
- Camera to record before and after shots as well as the litter picking
- Bell or whistle to call everyone back when finished
- You might want to consider tally or recording sheets and a spring balance for weighing bags. See page 7 for a sample tally sheet



School litter pick risk assessment check list

This check list is intended as a starting point and will need to be adapted to suit your location and children. To help you there is a completed example risk assessment in your pack.

Planning the litter pick

- Location – decide whether to use the school grounds or local area
- Avoid main roads, rivers, streams, ponds, railway lines, industrial premises etc
- Decide how many children and adult helpers will be involved. Will you have sufficient supervision?
- Decide if you will walk a local route or tackle one area like a park?
- Obtain a map or plan of the area
- Walk around the area the week before and identify any potential hazards and record these
 - Ensure that you have sufficient gloves and pickers for everyone. Reflective vests will be needed if outside of the school grounds
- Advise those taking part to wear appropriate clothing and footwear.

On the day of the litter pick

- Check the weather forecast and be prepared to postpone the pick if bad weather is like
- Ensure that all participants are wearing suitable clothing and footwear and ensure that everyone has gloves and pickers
- Give clear instructions to children about area to be picked and signal or time to return
 - Give clear instructions about how litter is to be picked up – with gloves or pickers always and no bare hands
- Advise on potential hazards in the area
 - Advise on what to do if they come across potentially dangerous items – these should all be reported to you and you then report it. **If in doubt leave! Sharp or jagged items such as broken glass. Heavy or bulky items. Biohazards such as dead animals, faeces, needles etc**
- Be aware of potential dangers during the pick such as moving vehicles and strangers interacting with the children
- All adults and children should be advised to wash their hands following the pick.

Lesson plan for a litter pick

Aims:

- To tidy the school grounds/ local area
- To involve pupils in positive community action
- To instil awareness of litter issue and responsible behaviour
- To collect data on litter

Resources:

- Pencils and clipboards
- Gloves and/or pickers
- Tally sheets
- Camera
- Bell or whistle
- Hanging scales
- First aid kit

- **Health and safety - ensure a risk assessment has been done prior to the lesson. Explain rules to pupils regarding what can and cannot be picked up as well as area to be picked**

- **Divide pupils into groups and hand out tally sheets, bags and gloves**

- **Children to pick litter, record on tally sheet and place item in a bag**

- **Remember to take before and after pictures as well as action shots**

- **Gather pupils together near the end of the lesson to weigh each group's bag and record weight on their tally sheet**

- **Dispose of waste as planned (unless needed for other activities)**

- **Ensure all children wash their hands following the activity**

School litter pick Tally Chart

Group name:

Date:

Item	Tally	Total
Sweet wrappers		
Crisp packets		
Drink cans		
Plastic bags		

Weight of bag:

Total number of items:

Litter survey



Now you have investigated how much litter there is, complete the table below about your litter pick.

Where did you carry out your litter pick?

What did you find out?

Is litter such a bad thing?

Why is litter bad for the environment?

How can you help with the reduction of litter? Give some examples

Further ideas for crosscurricular lessons

- Design posters to persuade others not to drop litter
- Draw a picture of a place that they like (park, beach etc) and write about why they like it
- Following a litter pick, count the items of litter and create a class tally chart
- Using the comic strips, write an adventure story about Captain Muck and Captain Litter
- Write poems or newspaper articles
- Debate - who's fault is it?
- Graphs - following a litter pick, make a bar chart on the types of litter found
- Map - make a map of the school grounds and mark on "grot spots" or litter bins
- Write a story for younger pupils with an antilittering morale
- Invite some older local residents into school and interview them about their thoughts on litter and how things have changed

Don't forget to hand out certificates and stickers and tag us in your photos of your litter patrol! #bwdlitterpatrol

We're on litter patrol

