

Where Garbage Goes Activity

Ask your students to research what happens to the garbage in their community.

This might best be done by having an employee or spokesperson from the city sanitation facility come into the class or, if possible, having students tour the facility. Students could also send a letter or e-mail to someone at the facility asking that person specific questions about what happens to their garbage.

Their research should answer questions about where the garbage goes, what happens to it when it gets there, how long it survives, any alternate uses to which it is put, total garbage amounts for their local area, and how the garbage affects the environment.

Have students create illustrated reports on their findings, including action plans for ways to reduce the amount of garbage or more appropriately deal with the garbage that presently exists.