

Unit 4

Things Around Us

12. Taking Charge of Waste



Discuss

Q1. What are the children and the teacher doing in the picture?

Ans. The children and the teacher are cleaning the park. They are picking up waste and keeping the surroundings neat and tidy.

Q2. Why are they cleaning the park?

Ans. They are cleaning the park to make it clean and beautiful. They want to keep their environment healthy and free from waste.

Q3. Have you ever seen piles of waste lying around your home or school?

Ans. Yes, sometimes I have seen piles of waste lying near dustbins, roads, or school corners.

(If you want a model negative response, you can also write: "No, our home and school are kept clean every day.")

Q4. Have you ever thought about how this waste is created?

Ans. Yes, this waste is created when we throw away things like food wrappers, paper, bottles, fruit peels, and plastic bags after using them.



Activity - 1

Q. Recall different activities that you and your elders do during the day. How do these activities create waste? Finally, what do we do with the waste?

Ans. During the day, we do many activities that create waste.

- When we cook food, we get vegetable peels and leftover food.
- When we study or write, we get waste paper and pencil shavings.
- When we buy things, we get plastic wrappers and packets.
- When we clean the house, we collect dust and old or broken things.

All these things become waste.

We put this waste into dustbins so that it can be collected and managed properly.

How is waste created?

Q1. How do you feel about it?

Ans. I feel sad and unhappy when I see piles of waste lying around. It makes our surroundings dirty and unhealthy.



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Q2. Do you think we can do something about it?

Ans. Yes, we can keep our surroundings clean by throwing waste in dustbins, reducing the use of plastic, and helping in cleanliness drives.



Discuss

Q1. How clean are the surroundings of your school?

Ans. The surroundings of my school are very clean. The classrooms, corridors, and playground are swept every day. Dustbins are kept in every corner to collect waste.

Q2. Do you find waste lying in or outside your classrooms or on the school grounds?

Ans. Sometimes I see paper bits or wrappers on the ground, but we pick them up and throw them into the dustbin to keep our school neat and tidy.



Activity - 2

Observe your surroundings.

Ans.

At School: I sometimes see bits of paper, wrappers, and pencil shavings on the classroom floor or around the school grounds. Dustbins are placed in the school, but some students forget to use them properly. We remind each other to keep the school clean.

At Home: Most of the waste at home comes from the kitchen, such as vegetable peels, food wrappers, and old newspapers. We keep our home clean by putting waste in separate bins for wet and dry waste.

Outside: When I look around outside, I often see plastic bags, bottles, and wrappers lying on the streets or near parks. Some people throw waste carelessly, but I try to throw waste only in the dustbin and keep the surroundings clean.



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Draw

Draw or paste a picture of a locality. Identify the places where there is garbage or wastewater or smoke by circling them in red. Try to find out how the waste gets there.

Ans.



Activity - 3

How can you help in reducing waste?

Ans. I can help in reducing waste by:

- Using cloth bags instead of plastic bags.
- Buying only what I need and not wasting things.
- Using both sides of paper for writing or drawing.
- Sharing old toys, books, and clothes with others.
- Avoiding food packed in plastic wrappers.

👉 By following these habits, I can create less waste and help keep my surroundings clean.



**Activity - 4**

How can you REUSE things to reduce waste?

Ans. I can reuse many things to reduce waste.

- I can use both sides of paper for rough work or drawing.
 - I can refill my water bottle instead of buying a new one.
 - I can make bags, toys, or craft items from old newspapers, boxes, and bottles.
 - I can use old clothes to make cleaning cloths or bags.
 - I can give my old books and toys to others who need them.
- 👉 Reusing things helps to create less waste and keeps our environment clean.

**Activity - 5**

Create an item using waste material that you can give as a gift to someone.

Ans. I made a beautiful pen stand using waste materials.

I used an old cardboard box, coloured paper, and ice-cream sticks to decorate it.

I gave it as a gift to the school helper to thank them for keeping our school clean.

The gift made them very happy, and I felt proud that I reused waste material to make something useful.



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**Find out**

Q1. Ask your elders, if there is any village, town or city that they know about, which is known for its cleanliness. You can share the information you learn from your elders in your class.

Ans. My elders told me that Indore city in Madhya Pradesh is known as one of the cleanest cities in India. The people of Indore keep their surroundings clean, use separate dustbins for waste, and take part in cleanliness drives.

Q2. Find out from your parents or teachers about the Swachh Bharat Mission.

Ans. The Swachh Bharat Mission was started by the Government of India in 2014.

Its aim is to make India clean and free from open defecation.

It encourages people to use toilets, throw waste in dustbins, and keep their homes and surroundings clean.

**Activity - 6**

Separate Your Waste

Two dustbins are drawn below. Write the names of the waste material which will go into each of them.

Plastic bottles, leaves, onion peels, light bulbs, rotten fruit, paper, eggshells, used plastic milk packets, cloth.



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Ans.



Write

Q1. List the things that you can do to keep your home and classroom clean.

Ans.

- I can keep my room tidy.
- I can throw waste in the dustbin.
- I can arrange my books and toys properly.
- I can clean my study table every day.
- I can help in sweeping and mopping the classroom floor.
- I can remind my friends not to litter in the classroom.

Q2. Make a list of tools you have seen being used in your school or neighbourhood for cleaning.

Ans. Broom, mop, dustpan, bucket, cleaning cloth, dustbin, and floor brush.

Q3. Have you ever observed the tools that are used in your home for cleaning? Make a list of these tools.

Ans. Broom, mop, vacuum cleaner, scrub brush, duster, bucket, and wiper.



Draw

Draw pictures of these tools in the box given below.

Ans.

Cleaning Tools



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Let us reflect



A. Discuss

1. How is waste created?

Ans. Waste is created when we throw away things that are no longer useful, such as food peels, wrappers, bottles, paper, and old or broken items.

2. How can we manage waste?

Ans. We can manage waste by following the 3Rs – Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle. We should throw waste in the correct dustbins, avoid plastic, and keep our surroundings clean.



B. Write

1. To avoid use of plastic bags and bottles, look at your home and school closely. List all the items of plastic material and write how these could be replaced by other safe materials.

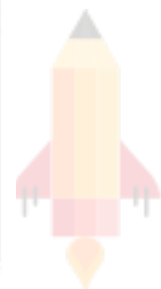
Ans.

Plastic Items	Safe Replacement
• Plastic bottles	Steel or copper bottles
• Plastic lunch boxes	Steel or glass containers
• Plastic bags	Cloth or jute bags
• Plastic cups or plates	Steel or paper cups and plates
• Plastic spoons	Wooden or steel spoons

2. Name three things in your school and home that you would put in the green dustbin and three things that you would put in the blue dustbin.

Ans.

Green Dustbin (Wet Waste)	Blue Dustbin (Dry Waste)
• Fruit and vegetable peels	Plastic bottles
• Rotten food	Paper
• Eggshells	Glass pieces or metal cans



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C. Draw

1. Make a poster to show a village or town that is managing its waste well. Give your poster a suitable title.

Ans.



D. Enact in pairs

You can be a clean town and your partner a dirty town. Engage in a short conversation talking about how you feel about being the way you are.

Ans.

Activity: Conversation Between a Clean Town and a Dirty Town

Clean Town: Hello, Dirty Town! I feel happy and proud because my streets are clean and green. People here throw waste only in dustbins and plant many trees.

Dirty Town: Oh, Clean Town! I feel sad. There is garbage lying on the roads, and people throw plastic everywhere. The air smells bad, and people often fall sick.

Clean Town: That's not good! You should tell your people to keep the surroundings clean. If everyone uses dustbins and avoids plastic, your town can become clean too.

Dirty Town: Yes, you are right! From now on, we will clean our town and keep it beautiful like yours.

Clean Town: Great! Let's work together to make our country clean and healthy.

**Think, Reflect and Share**

1. Imagine you are having a birthday party at your home. What are some of the ways in which you can try to have a zero-waste birthday party?

Ans. At a birthday party, waste like plastic plates, cups, wrappers, and leftover food is usually created.

To have a zero-waste birthday party, I can:

- Use steel or paper plates and cups instead of plastic ones.
- Decorate with paper streamers and flowers instead of plastic balloons.
- Serve homemade food and snacks instead of packed items.
- Give return gifts made from reused or eco-friendly materials.
- Collect all waste and throw it in proper dustbins after the party.

2. Have you seen waste in nature? What do you think happens to the waste of animals, dried leaves and so on in a forest?

Ans. Yes, I have seen waste like dried leaves and animal droppings in nature.

In forests, this waste rots and mixes with the soil, turning into natural manure (compost) that helps new plants grow.

Nothing in nature is wasted — it all becomes a part of the soil again.



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