



**LIVING**

**STREETS**



**LET'S  
WALK TO  
SCHOOL**

**WOW LEARNING RESOURCES**

# Cleaner Communities - KS1



**DURATION** Core activity 40 mins. Extension 40mins

## AIM AND OVERVIEW

To develop an understanding of why people shouldn't litter. Helping to create cleaner environment.

## OBJECTIVES

To spot litter and think about how it looks i.e. tidy or untidy.

To understand why we shouldn't litter and to share this message with family and friends.

## MAIN ACTIVITY

This learning resource has been developed by Living Streets and supports elements of both England National Curriculum and Scotland - The Curriculum for Excellence (CfE)

### Resources

- Camera
- Paints / pencils / pens
- Paper

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For more information on our work with schools, visit [www.livingstreets.org.uk/walktoschool](http://www.livingstreets.org.uk/walktoschool)

# Cleaner Communities - KS1

## Litter Detectives



### MAIN ACTIVITY (CONTINUED)

#### Starter

Ask the children if they name anything which might make the school or local area look untidy. Possible answers could include dropping litter, spraying graffiti and being really noisy.

#### Introduction

Today we are looking closely at litter. Let's talk about the types of litter found on the walk to school. Ask your pupils the following questions:

- Why do you think people drop litter?
- Are there enough litter bins and **recycling** points?
- What can you do with your litter if there is no bin nearby?

Talk about what happens to that litter over time. Some, like paper and tissues will **biodegrade** but others like drink cans and plastic won't. This might cause problems for wildlife and makes the area look untidy. Even dropping food like apple cores can be bad - it might **biodegrade** but it might also attract rats!

#### Activity - Litter Detectives

- Explain that the children will be litter detectives. They won't be picking up litter but take them on a walk around the school area or just around the perimeter of the school and note down any areas of litter.
- Take photos of litter hotspots and check whether bins (often found outside the school gate) are emptied when they are full.

#### Plenary

Did you know?

- You can get fined (made to pay money) for dropping litter - so make sure to find a bin.
- Litter can harm your pets, as well as wild animals.
- It's also bad for the rivers and sea, and causes **pollution**.
- The council has to spend lots of money on trying to clean up our streets.
- The amount of sweet and chocolate wrapper litter is increasing.

As a class, ask pupils if they can think of one idea why people should always use a bin and not litter?

These ideas can be written on the whiteboard as a word storm.

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### EXTRAS

#### Extension

Children can use the word storm and design some posters with a message, laminate them and place in hotspots on school grounds.

#### At home activity: Litter hotspots

Look at litter hotspots on the walk to school.

- Are there any areas where more litter is found? Like behind a fence, near a bus stop where people have to wait or outside shops? Can you think why this might be the case?
- Is there anything you can do about these hotspots? Encourage friends and family not to litter or ask shops to put up no littering signs.

NB: Ask children not to pick up litter themselves. It's better that they don't drop litter in the first place.

#### Vocabulary

- **Environment** - refers to the surroundings or conditions that living organisms (people, animals, plants) find themselves in.
- **Pollution** - is anything that makes the earth dirty and unhealthy. Land, air, and water are all affected by pollution.
- **Recycling** - means making rubbish into something new.
- **Biodegradable** - this means it can be broken down naturally and returned to nature without having a harmful impact on the environment.

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## Litter Detection



### SUPPORTING WORKSHEETS

## WHAT I'VE LEARNT ABOUT CLEANER COMMUNITIES

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