

How to conduct a waste audit

You must wear gloves and use tongs to sort the rubbish!

1. Gather the rubbish bin from the classroom.
2. Empty the bin on to a tarp.
3. Sort the rubbish into six separate piles –
 - Paper and cardboard
 - Plastic
 - Metal
 - Glass
 - Food scraps
 - Other
4. Count the number of items in each pile.
5. Record the data in the frequency table.
6. Dispose of the rubbish thoughtfully. Recycle where possible.
7. Write the amount of each type of waste **as a fraction** of the total amount.
8. **Estimate** how much of the waste could be either recycled or composted.
9. Write your responses to the following questions:
 - a) What type of waste makes up most of the rubbish in our bins?

 - b) Were there any items there that could have been reused or should have been recycled? List them.