

CONDUCTING A WASTE AUDIT AT YOUR SCHOOL



Contact Information

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Grades

K-12

Objectives

Students will be able to: 1) identify all materials in the school's waste stream; 2) identify what materials in the schools' waste stream are recyclable; 3) identify what areas of the school produce the most waste; and 4) make suggestions or recommendations to reduce the schools' waste stream.

Method

Following the *School Waste Assessment* sheet at the end of this lesson, students will conduct a waste audit of all rooms in the school building. The Waste Assessment can be modified to fit the needs of an individual project or a school-wide project.

Materials

Clip board (optional), pen or pencil, copies of the *School Waste Assessment* sheet, access to school's waste service records, and access to all areas of the school campus.

Vocabulary

Waste, waste audit or waste assessment.

Procedure

1. Introduce the term WASTE AUDIT. Ask students to review *School Waste Assessment* sheet.
2. Conduct a preliminary waste audit in the classroom with the students.
3. Have students identify other areas in the school which they would like to assess
4. Assign, or have a volunteer group of students contact the school office for financial information regarding the school's waste service.
5. Conduct the waste audit and track findings on the *School Waste Assessment* sheet.