

STEM from Home

Home Waste Management

Learning about the environment is a great way to educate oneself and others. An important environmental issue we are facing on a global scale is waste management. Waste management awareness is critical to help maintain a healthy planet for our generation and the next.

Do you know what's in your dustbin? Have you ever wondered where all the waste from your house goes? Do you know about the different types of waste? You will answer all these questions and more as you promote awareness on waste management by creating a blog, upcycle a discarded product from materials in your home, and design a model for better waste management in your home.

Main Activity: Zero Waste

Introduction

Did you know that India produces more than a tenth of the world's waste? That amounts to around 277 million tonnes of municipal solid waste every year. 77% of that waste is disposed of in open dumps, 18% is composted and only 5% is recycled. With over 90% of waste not disposed properly, it leads to higher CO₂ emissions, and other environmental, economic and health safety risks.

In this activity, you will learn how to use a blogsite to create your own blog. Your blog will provide information on the need and importance of waste management. It will promote awareness and tips on waste management. You will add images and videos where possible.

What You Will Need

- A computer or mobile device with internet to create your [blog](#).
- Online resources on [waste management](#) and [tips on waste management](#).

What You Will Learn

In this activity, you will learn about the importance of waste management, and tips on managing waste. You will learn how to use an online platform to create a blog.



Bonus Activities

Activity 1: Upcycle Old to New

Introduction

Upcycling is one way in which we can learn how to conserve resources and reuse them, rather than discard or dispose them. In addition to separating recyclable items into designated bins, recycling is also about reusing recyclable material in various ways in our homes or schools.

In this activity, you will learn how to make a bag from an old t-shirt. You can also add a page to your blog showing how you made the bag.

What You Will Need

- A computer or mobile device with internet, for accessing the [activity](#).
- Old t-shirt (thick fabric recommended)
- Scissors
- Ruler or tape measure (optional)

What You Will Learn

In this activity, you will learn how to make a bag from an old t-shirt.



Challenge Activity: Home Waste Management Model

Introduction

A simple way of reducing waste and [managing waste disposal](#) at home is to adopt the 3RC practice – Reduce, Reuse, Recycle and Compost.

In this activity, you will observe and record how waste is being managed in your house. You will design a model for better waste management system, which will focus on [waste segregation](#). Consider the following questions when designing your waste management model:

Where do you usually put the household waste?

Do you put all waste in one bin, or do you put them in separate bins at home?

Where is the household waste disposed?

Do you reuse or recycle waste at home?

You can design your waste management model using any method you wish. This could be a drawing by hand or a [digital drawing](#) a model using materials available in your home, a video or a [presentation](#). Your model design should help in easier segregation and management of household waste. You can also add a page to your blog detailing your model.

