



11-16



How much rubbish? Questions to consider

This activity will help you investigate how much rubbish is thrown away in the UK each year and how we deal with it. Research and evaluation skills will be developed using the Internet as a source of information. We advise you to look at our guidelines for Internet use before you begin.

Think about the questions below, either as a class or individually, then look at the prompt sheet for some answers.



Information sources

Internet (see our links section for some useful ideas), Environment Agency (England & Wales), Scottish Environmental Protection Agency, Environment and Heritage Service (Northern Ireland), Department for Environment Food and Rural Affairs (England and Wales), Department of the Environment for Northern Ireland, and local councils.

Investigate

1. How much rubbish does each person in the UK produce in
 - one day
 - one week
 - one year
2. Do different parts of the country produce different amounts of rubbish? Compare two regions and explain why there are differences.
3. How do we control the different sorts of rubbish in the UK's waste stream? For example, [household waste](#), [commercial waste](#), [industrial waste](#), [construction waste](#), and [agricultural waste](#).
4. What are the environmental issues (global and local) associated with rubbish?
5. In what ways is rubbish dangerous to humans?
6. In what ways is rubbish dangerous to wildlife?

How does the government plan to deal with rubbish in the future?





11-16



Discussion

1. What was the best source of information and why? Was it books, CD ROMS, the Internet or something else?
2. What was the best website and why?
3. What are the advantages and disadvantages of using the Internet to find information?

