

School

Here at school we produce hundreds of pounds of waste each week. But what happens to the plastic, cardboard, food scraps, or other waste that is discarded?

Where will you go?

- | | |
|-------------|------------|
| 1- Landfill | 4- Ground |
| 2- Landfill | 5- Recycle |
| 3- Landfill | 6- Recycle |

Ground

Oh no! Now you're litter.
You've been discarded in the
wrong place and now you're
part of ground pollution.
Hopefully you're not putting
harmful chemicals into the
environment!

Where will you go?

1- Stay

4- River

2- Stay

5- River

3- Stay

6- Picked Up

Landfill

So, you've been thrown away and now you've reached the landfill. A huge mound of garbage that cannot be recycled and will be capped off with dirt. I wonder how long you'll stay...

Where will you go?

- | | |
|----------|---------|
| 1- Stay | 4- Stay |
| 2- Stay | 5- Stay |
| 3- River | 6- Stay |

Picked Up

Hooray! A good citizen has spotted you and has picked you up. Depending on the kind of waste you are, they're sending you to your next location.

Where will you go?

- | | |
|---------------------|-------------|
| 1- Recycling Center | 4- Landfill |
| 2- Recycling Center | 5- Landfill |
| 3- Compost | 6- Landfill |

Reuse

Yes! You have been repurposed into something useful! You are going to be put through the cycle again, hopefully you'll be reused again and again!

Where will you go?

1- School

4- School

2- School

5- School

3- School

6- School

Recycling Center

Alright! You're a piece of plastic that has avoided the landfill! Now you'll be reused, right? Well, recycled goods can only be reused if a company buys them, so you can end up waiting a long time or sent to a landfill!

Where will you go?

- | | |
|-------------|---------|
| 1- Reuse | 4- Stay |
| 2- Reuse | 5- Stay |
| 3- Landfill | 6- Stay |

River

Uh-oh, this is definitely NOT where you want to be. You're carried in the current with lots of other waste, getting caught on plants, or stuck in the mud, contaminating the ecosystem and drinking water.

Where will you go?

- | | |
|--------------|---------|
| 1- Ocean | 4- Stay |
| 2- Picked Up | 5- Stay |
| 3- Ocean | 6- Stay |

Ocean

Wow! This place is huge! But you're not alone. You've joined millions of tons of waste that flows to the ocean. Better watch out for fish!

Where will you go?

1- Stay

2- Fish

3- Stay

4- Fish

5- Stay

6- Picked Up

Fish

Now you've been eaten by a fish. It mistook you for food and now you're stuck. If this fish gets eaten, you're going with it!

Where will you go?

1- Person

4- Stay

2- Person

5- Stay

3- Person

6- Person

Person

Now a person has eaten the fish that ate you! Since the food we eat sometimes contains plastic, there's no doubt that waste has a direct impact on humans!

Where will you go?

1- Stay

2- Stay

3- Stay

4- Stay

5- Stay

6- Stay

Compost

You are food waste that is helping to make the dirt in a garden more fertile. Great job helping the plants to grow! Now you're being absorbed and used again as a meal at school!

Where will you go?

- | | |
|-----------|-----------|
| 1- School | 4- School |
| 2- School | 5- School |
| 3- School | 6- School |

Name: _____

Trash Cycle Reflection

How would you describe the Trash Cycle experience?

What surprised you the most about this activity?

How were each of the games similar or different each time you played?

What are some questions or comments you have after playing this game?
