Divert or Landfill?

This activity is a great way to test student knowledge on waste diversion. The printable cards found below can be separated into four groups – items that belong in the Green Cart, Blue Box, Garbage and items that should be disposed of at the Household hazardous waste (HHW) facility. This game can be played many different ways. If you have a younger class, you may choose to cut the cards out and ask the students as a group whether or not an item belongs in the Green Cart, Blue Box, Garbage, or HHW facility. If you have an older class, you can cut out one or several copies of the cards and distribute them out to students for them to sort into their appropriate receptacle. Divide your students into teams and allow them time to think strategically or make it a race. You can also opt to print them onto laminated cardstock to create more durable cards and even attach magnetic strips so that they stick to the chalkboard. Be creative and have fun! This game is a great way to show the students that most items that they bring in their lunch or find at home should be diverted and very little should be going into the garbage.

Answer Key:

| Green Cart Items | Blue Box Items | Garbage Items | Household Hazardous Waste Items |
|---|--|---|---|
| Chicken and bones Fish, seafood & shells Baked goods and ingredients Meat and bones Paper napkins Tissues and paper towels Paper plates, cups and takeout containers Flour/Sugar/Potato and popcorn bags Pasta and rice Bread and grains Eggs and eggshells Cooled grease, fat and cooking oils Freezer, waxed and parchment paper Sauces and dips House plants and soil Coffee filters and tea bags Dairy products Fruits and vegetables Nuts and shells | Aluminum foil and plates Boxboard Cartons Paper take-out trays Phonebooks Plastic cups Yogurt cups Empty aerosols Plastic bottles (#s 1, 2, 4, 5, 6) Cardboard cans Disposable coffee cup lids Metal cans Plastic bags Styrofoam products Glass jars Newspapers and magazines | Aluminum-lined wrappers Chip bags Plastic gum packages Disposable cutlery Crayons Pencils Juice pouches Straws | Batteries Aerosols (full/partially full) Medicine and prescriptions Hair spray (full/partially full) Thermometers Cleaners (full/partially full) Needles Any car fluid/liquid like gas |
| | | | |

Cards:



Chicken and bones



Fish, seafood and shells



Baked goods and ingredients



Meat and bones



Paper napkins



Tissues and paper towel



Paper plates, cups and takeout containers



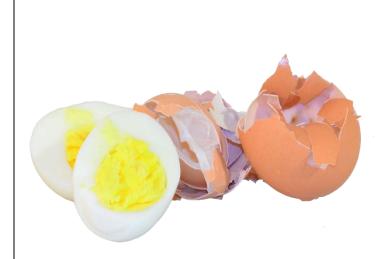
Flour/sugar/popcorn/potato bags



Pasta and rice



Breads and grains



Eggs and eggshells



Cooled grease, fat and cooking oil



Freezer, waxed and parchment paper



Sauces and dips



House plants and soil





Coffee filters/tea bags



Dairy products



Nuts and shells



Fruits and vegetables



Boxboard



Aluminum foil and plates



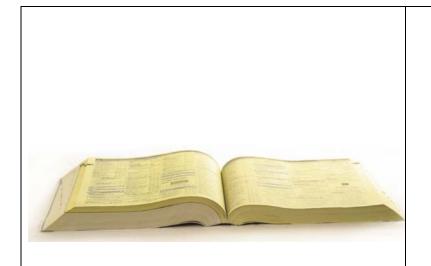
Paper take-out tray



Cartons



Plastic cups



Phone book



EMPTY aerosols



Yogurt cups



Cardboard cans



Plastic bottles (numbers 1, 2, 4, 5 and 6)



Disposable coffee cup lid



Metal cans



Styrofoam products



Plastic bags



Newspapers and magazines



Glass jars



Aluminum-lined wrappers (like granola bar wrappers)



Gum packages (inside part only)



Chip bags



Crayons



Disposable cutlery





Air fresheners (full/partially full)



Medicine and prescriptions (full/partially full)



Hairspray (full/partially full)



Thermometers

