

LESSON PLAN BEYOND THE BIN

KINDERGARTEN (AGES 4–5)
30-45 MINUTES

FREE



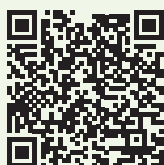
LEARNING INTENTION

By the end of the lesson, children will:

- Recognise the colour and purpose of each of the 4 bins
- Begin to sort items by waste type (recycling, food and garden, glass, rubbish)
- Develop early habits in sustainability and environmental care

1. LESSON OUTLINE: Welcome & introduction (5 mins)

- **Begin with a group discussion:**
 - Who takes out the rubbish at home?
 - What colour are your bins?
 - What is recycling? (Turning old things into new things so we can use it again!)
- **Use our bin cards* or your classroom bins as props**



* Download waste and recycling sorting cards from our website or via the QR code: hobsonsabay.vic.gov.au/Community/Sustainability/Sustainable-schools

2. MEET THE BINS: Which bin? (10 mins)

BIN:	LID COLOUR:	USE:
RUBBISH		Yucky, dirty things that we can't recycle – like nappies, tissues and food wrappers
MIXED RECYCLING		Three main types of recyclables: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Paper and cardboard- Hard plastic bottles and containers- Metal tins and cans
FOOD & GARDEN		<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Food scraps, like banana peels, apple cores and bread- Things from your garden, like weeds, grass and dried leaves
GLASS		Glass bottles and jars



3. QUIZ TIME: Which bin? (5 mins)

Materials:

- Common waste and recycling items found in your centre (eg. A plastic bottle, sheet of paper, plastic bag, food wrapper)

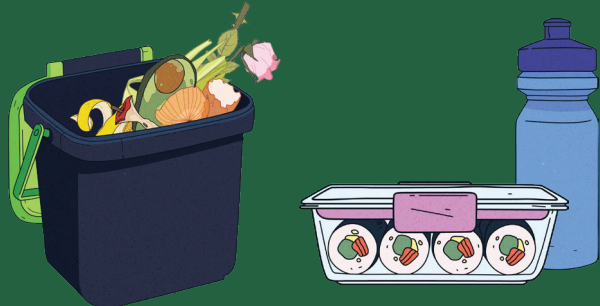
Instructions:

- Show the item to the children – ask them 'Which bin should this go in?'
- Discuss WHY: (eg: 'plastic bottles go in the recycling bin because we can melt them down and turn them into new plastic things – like playground equipment, park benches or new bottles!')

Item	Bin
	
	
	
	

EXTENSION IDEAS

- Host a clean up of your centre or nearby area
- Start a compost bin at the centre
- Appoint a 'Bin Boss' each day to manage the sorting of recycling
- Encourage 'nude food' or low-waste lunchboxes



4. INTERACTIVE ACTIVITY: Which bin? (10 mins)

Materials:

- Waste and recycling sorting cards*
- Bin cards* or four labelled bin boxes

* Download waste and recycling sorting cards from our website or via QR code:
hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/Community/Sustainability/Sustainable-schools

Instructions:

- Children are each given a flash card and take it in turns to place their card with the correct bin card or in the right 'bin box'
- Encourage group feedback: 'Do we all agree?'



5. OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES: Colouring in or cut & paste (15 mins)

- Find colouring in or cut and paste activity sheets on our website or via QR code
hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/Community/Sustainability/Sustainable-schools
- Print and use with the children
- Display them in the centre or send them home as a reminder to recycle right!



* Download waste and recycling activity packs from our website via the QR code.



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