**What a load of rubbish!**

**Activity**

Choose a large box, bag or container and ask children to put all their rubbish in the box throughout the day. This activity will demonstrate how much waste is created at the kindy in just one day.

In this activity children will:

* become aware of the amount of rubbish produced at kindy every day
* gain an understanding of why we need to reduce our waste
* come up with ideas about what we can do to have less rubbish.

**Materials**

* Reusable shopping bag for every student
* Piece of string or belt to attach bag around waist of each student
* Large container such as a bin or plastic crate (to place all the collected rubbish)
* Posters *What goes in your recycling bin?* and *What goes in a compost bin?*

available on Brisbane City Council’s website

**Procedure**

1. Attach a bag using a belt or string around the waist of each student when they first arrive at kindy. If you like, you can also do the same for any adults at the kindy. For the remainder of the kindy day, every piece of rubbish that children and adults generate is placed in their bag, whether or not that bit of rubbish could have been recycled, composted or could have gone in the general waste bin.
2. At the end of the day count how many pieces of rubbish are in each person’s bag.
3. All of the rubbish is then emptied into the one large clear plastic container or crate and a photograph taken of all the rubbish generated. Add a large sign stating how many pieces of rubbish were collected in the one day and place on display where parents will see it when they come into the kindy.
4. Discuss ways in which any rubbish could be reduced, reused, recycled or composted.
5. Display posters *What goes in your recycling bin*? and *What goes in a compost bin?* to assist children to come up with ideas.