

# Which waste goes in which bin?



# Notes for Teachers:

Ways to use this resource:

STUDENT TRAINING SLIDES - read suggested teaching notes on slides 3 and 4, then show students slides 5-32

Also available: **Which bin? 3-minute lesson for NSW Schools:**

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zA8fD6l\\_ZyY&t=23s](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zA8fD6l_ZyY&t=23s)

STUDENT TRAINING HANDS ON ACTIVITY - print slides 11 - 32 at 100% to make a colour hard copy set of pictures for sorting (laminare if keeping forever).

You could have appropriate coloured buckets to put the pictures into, or simple put title slide eg landfill on floor and students sort pics onto them.

STUDENT HANDS ON ACTIVITY POSTER MAKING - print slides 11 - 32 at 50% size for students to cut and paste and make posters to put up in each class and/or near each bin station.

The SOW project 2024-2026 was a joint initiative between NSW Education and NSW Environment Protection Authority (EPA) and was proudly funded by the NSW Government through the NSW EPAs Business Food Waste Partnership Grants.

# Teaching notes for TRAINING BIN USERS - EVERYONE

IDENTIFY THE BINS – have pictures of your school bins or coloured buckets to match bins.  
KNOW WHAT GOES IN WHICH BIN – show pictures or samples for each.  
Teach food scrap bins especially – what does not belong in them (‘contamination’)

## **Ways to teach/practise knowledge:**

1. Mix up photos of waste items and hold up one at a time, count down 3, 2, 1 thinking time, then all students call out the name of which bin: “Landfill”, “food scraps”, “unwrap” if food is in packaging or ziplock bag or “no bin - take it home”.
2. Hand out pictures of waste items and students put them in correct bucket or pile. Check for accuracy and correct as needed. Option to make relay race – which group can sort the most accurately and fastest or ‘rob the nest’.
3. Make a Kahoot quiz or smartboard game to teach what goes in which bin.

# Teacher notes for TRAINING BIN HELPERS/Green Team/ I.B.I.S. (Intelligent Bin Inspection Students)

IDENTIFY THE BINS – have pictures of your school bins or coloured buckets to match bins.  
KNOW WHAT GOES IN WHICH BIN – show pictures or samples for each.

## **Daily or alternate day routine (make a roster)**

1. Make sure food scrap buckets and bins are available at eating times
2. use tongs to remove any contamination (plastic, foil etc)
3. Take food scrap caddies or buckets at the end of last eating time to the Food Scrap Wheelie bin/s in playground (for Cleaners to empty into commercial Food Organics bins).  
Take selected food scraps to compost bins or worm farm.
4. Clean the bucket and put paper towel in the bottom or replace with new compostable bin liner.

# Student Training slides - WHICH BIN?

Instead of putting all our rubbish into one bin for landfill, our school will have some new bins in the classrooms and the playground.

Our school is a Solving Organic Waste (SOW) school. The aim is to reduce food waste to landfill.

# In Classrooms

When you have rubbish CHOOSE WISELY.

Look for the new bins:

**Food Scrap bins** – all food only (no packaging)

Existing bins:

**Paper bins** – keep using for paper and cardboard  
(remember: no paper towels or tissues)

**Landfill** – EVERYTHING ELSE

Any other bins? eg Return & Earn, soft plastics





# TEST YOUR BIN SKILLS!



**Which bin does each item belong in?  
Or should it be taken home? ('NO BIN')**

**Do you need to do something to 'UNWRAP'  
your food waste from any packaging?**

# Which bin? Or No bin - take it home?

Unavoidable food waste goes in Food Scrap/Organics bins.



Uneaten food? Take it home.



**“TAKE IT HOME”**

Don't throw whole fruit or  
uneaten food or drink in

**FOOD SCRAP BINS**

Check out these real photos of food found in school landfill bins during waste audits.







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# “FOOD SCRAP”





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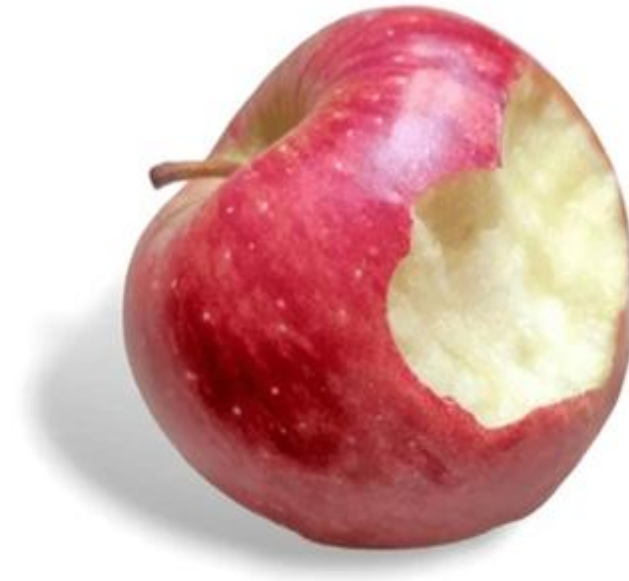


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Pencil shavings are not food but can be composted





**“UNWRAP”**

before putting in  
**FOOD SCRAP BINS**



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Add another packaged  
food to unwrap eg  
popcorn bag half eaten





Add photo of the contents of another packaged food to unwrap, e.g. popcorn, that could be emptied into food scrap caddy or bin.

# “RETURN & EARN”



**10c** REFUND AT COLLECTION  
DEPOTS/POINTS IN PARTICIPATING  
STATE/TERRITORY OF PURCHASE

EMPTY THE DRINK,  
BIN THE STRAWS IN THE LANDFILL BIN,  
LIDS CAN BE ON OR OFF

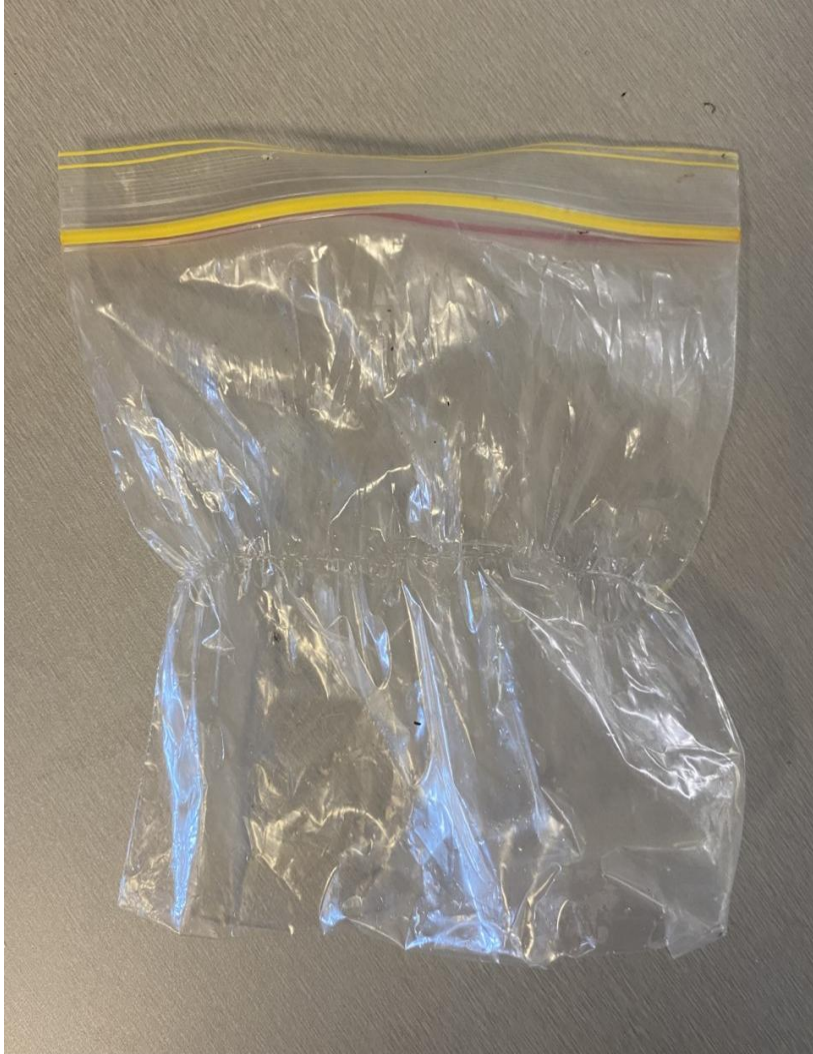


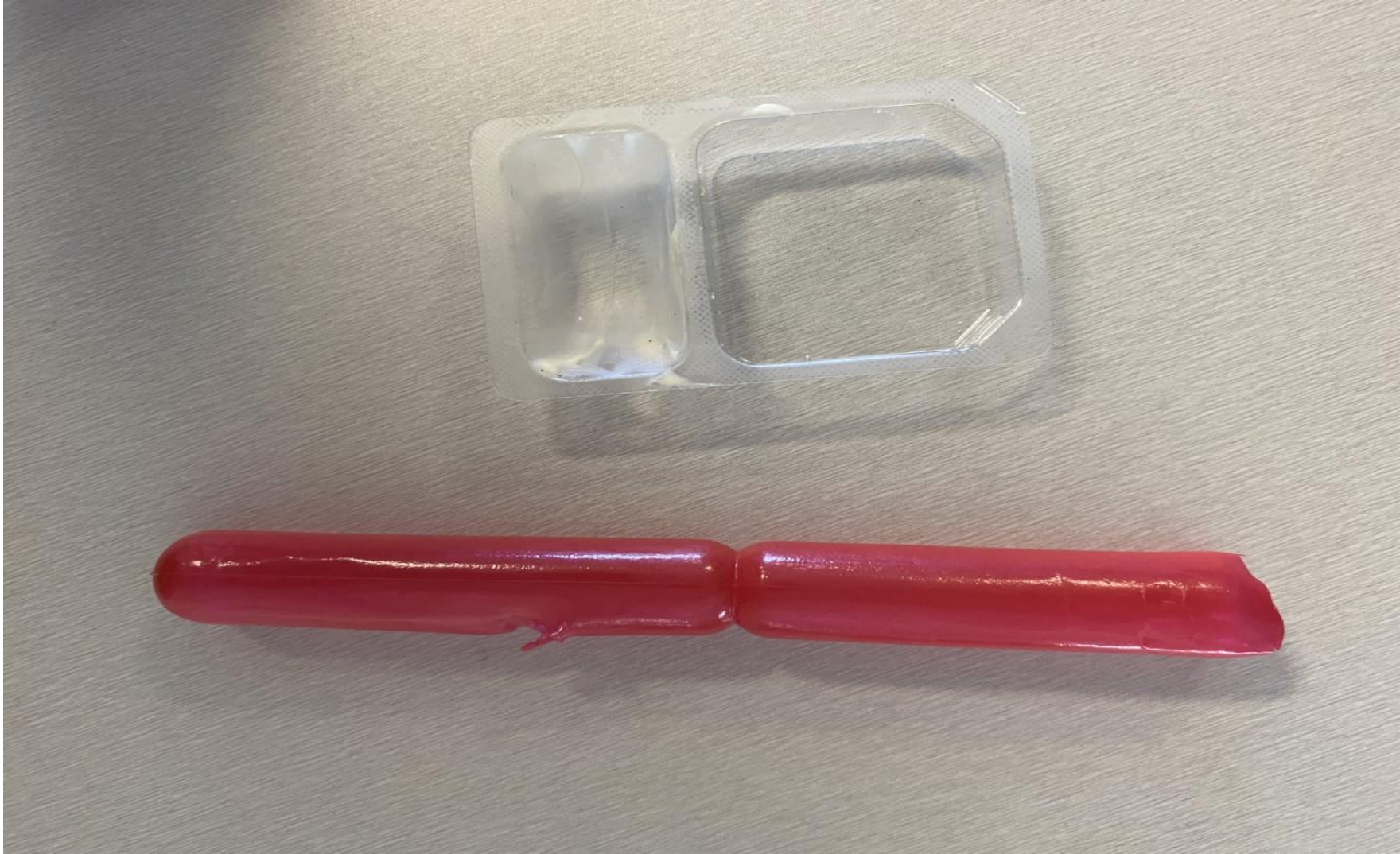


# “LANDFILL”



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empty



empty





**ADD ONE MORE LANDFILL  
ITEM from your school?**



Dear Cleaners,  
ALWAYS put a  
Food Scrap bin  
next to  
a landfill bin.

NEVER place a  
Food Scrap bin  
on its own in the  
playground or  
classroom.

