



## What's in the Trash? Grades 2-5 Post-Visit Activity #2

**Materials needed:** *What's in the Trash* recording sheet, pencils.

**Purpose:** To have students think about what they are throwing away, and to realize new ways they can use their “garbage.”

**Directions:**

- Make a copy of the *What's in the Trash* chart for each student to take home.
- Give each student a chart and ask them to complete it with help from at least one other person where they live.
- Have your students inventory the trash at home once a day for a week, recording the amount of each type of packaging or other items thrown away. Have each student record what could be composted, reused or recycled and what is really garbage in the boxes for each day.
- When the students bring the charts back to class, have a group discussion about ways to increase recycling, reusing and composting, to reduce waste in their homes.
- For an extended activity, have students write up their plans for reducing their home waste.

# What's in the Trash?

	GARBAGE	RECYCLE	REUSE	COMPOST
DAY 1				
DAY 2				
DAY 3				
DAY 4				
DAY 5				

What thing(s) represent the largest part of your home's waste?

Which of these items could be reduced or eliminated by changing what you buy or use?