

## Waste and Our World: Home Waste Audit

This guide will help you conduct a waste audit of your home and implement a plan to reduce waste! You will find out what kind of waste is produced in your home, then you will come up with ideas for how waste can be reduced and implement an action plan.

*Suitable for ages:* Can be adapted for kindergarten to grade 12

*Direct curriculum links:*

- Grade 4 Science: Waste and our World
- Grade 6 Science: Evidence and Investigation
- Career and Technology Foundations: Environmental Stewardship

## Instructions

*What you will need checklist:*

- A large sheet or reusable tarp
- Masking tape
- a pair of rubber gloves
- your household garbage!

*Instructions:*

1. Collect your household garbage in one place OR save all of your garbage during one day
2. Lay down your sheet or tarp
3. Make three separate areas on your sheet for recyclable material, compostable items and black cart items.
4. Put on your gloves
5. Sort waste into the correct pile. [Use this sheet to help you!](#)
6. You could weigh each pile of garbage to determine how much compost, recycling, and landfill waste you have
7. Clean up and place your garbage into the correct cart for collection



*Follow up questions and activity ideas:*

- Make a poster to go next to your bins to remind you and your family what goes where.
- Where there many items in your garbage which could have been reused? How can you reduce the amount of waste you are producing?
- Make a graph showing the results of your waste audit
- Based on your findings, estimate how much waste your family produces in one week, one month and one year



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## Did you know?

Did you know that 88% of garbage in our black carts in Calgary could be diverted into our blue and green carts? That's a lot of unnecessary garbage in our Calgary landfills!

## Share with us!

We would love to see photos of your low-waste crafts and activities at home. Feel free to tag us or hashtag #GreenCalgary in your social media posts! Find us here:

