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| Eco  Knowledge Organiser  Year 3/4 | | | | | | | |
| Litter and Waste | | | | | | | |
| Three key questions | | | | | | | |
| 1. Is litter and waste a problem? | | | 1. Why is it important to reduce the amount of litter and waste? | | | 1. How can we reduce litter and waste? | |
| Vocabulary | | | Issues | | | Solutions | |
| Litter  Waste  Reduce  Recycle  Reuse  Biodegradable  Landfill | Rubbish left over  Unusable rubbish  Creating less litter  Changing waste into reusable material  Use something more than once before we dispose of it  It decomposes, rots away  Getting rid of rubbish by burying it in large holes in the ground | | Littering in the UK and in our area, like most areas, it’s a big problem. This is where people refuse to use a bin or take their rubbish home. A lot of litter is not biodegradable. Apart from looking bad and unsightly, the litter left behind by us humans can have harmful effects on the environment and the animals that live within it. Many animals are injured by litter. They can hurt themselves on it, get stuck or even end up eating it. Animals that swallow pieces of litter can starve to death or gradually get weaker as their stomachs fill with litter instead of food. Both large and small animals can be injured by litter, for example whales, turtles, fish, birds, and cows!  Across the world and in the UK, we have an increasing problem with waste. We are producing waste faster than we can get rid of it. This means we are having more and more landfill sites all over the world. Lots of things that we throw away can be reused, repaired or recycled. There are still a lot of single use plastics being used in the UK, such as plastic bottles and straws. We can refuse to use them or reduce our usage of them. If we do not cut down on our waste, we will destroy the world. Did you know: The UK produces more than 100 million tonnes of waste every year, one tonne is about the weight of a small car, every eight months it would fill Lake Windermere, the largest and deepest lake in England! | | | We can help in our school and local area by being responsible for our own waste and making sure it goes in the correct bin.A picture containing grass, container, bin, blue  Description automatically generated  We can also litter pick in our school and local area to help reduce the litter that has been dropped.  A picture containing text, clipart  Description automatically generatedWe can educate others in our lives to encourage them to be responsible for their own waste.  We can try to REFUSE, REDUCE, REUSE, REPAIR and RECYCLE as much as we can.  Earth day = 22nd April 2021 | |
| Curriculum links | | | | | | | |
| English | | Maths | | Design and Technology | Geography | | Science |
| Write an anti-litter poem  Children could write an informational text about how litter damages the environment  Children could write an advertisement for a litter-pick they are organising  Children could write a newspaper report about an event linked to litter that their school has participated in, for example a litter-pick, adding recycle bins in the playground | | Children could measure the amount of litter collected during a litter-pick.  Children could record the different types of litter found during a litter-pick using bar charts, pictograms and tables  Children could plot the location of bins in the school grounds  Children could compare the amount of litter in the school grounds before and after an action using appropriate  graphical methods | | Design a new product made from old,  current products (recycling/upcycling)  Design and create an alternative to  a single use plastic  **Art and Design**  Use ‘clean’ litter to create artworks and sculptures. | Can the children clean the water from the pond to make it drinkable?  Make a map of the bins in the school/local environment – are they in the correct position?  Discover which country has the most effective recycling system  Compare different countries recycling systems and how they are advertised | | Carry out litter surveys in the playground or local area  Gather, record and classify litter in categories  Recognise that environments can change and that this can sometimes pose dangers to living things  Investigate the rate at which different materials degrade |
| Whole school initiatives | | | | | | | |
| Recycling bins Become a plastic clever school Litter campaigns Community litter pick Education/posters to use the correct bins | | | | | | | |