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|  Eco  Knowledge Organiser  Year 5/6 |
| 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?
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| Vocabulary | Issues | Solutions |
| LitterWasteReduceRecycleReuseBiodegradableLandfill | Rubbish left overUnusable rubbishCreating less litterChanging waste into reusable materialUse something more than once before we dispose of itIt decomposes, rots awayGetting 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 generatedWe 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 | Geography | Design and Technology | Science |
| Children could write a persuasive ‘call to arms’ to the children in their school to participate in a litter-pickChildren could write instructions for how to minimise waste in school and at home.Children could write a diary entry about a litter-pick they have participated in.Children could write a balanced argument about whether single-use plastics should be banned. | Children could measure the amount of litter collected during a litter-pick in different units.Children could present data about the amount of school waste that goes to landfill.Children could calculate the amount of waste being recycled, composted or ending in landfills using percentages.Children could present data on waste their school produces using pie charts and line graphs. | 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?Explore how we can reduce waste within the school, local area, globallyCompare different countries recycling systems and how they are advertised | Design a new product made from old,current products (recycling/upcycling) Design and create an alternative toa single use plastic**Art and Design**Use ‘clean’ litter to create artworks and sculptures.  | Compare and group together everyday materials on the basis of their propertiesIdentify how animals and plants are adapted to suit their environment in different ways and that adaptation may lead to evolution.Give reasons, based on evidence from comparative and fair tests, for the particular uses of everyday materials, including metals, wood and plastic.Explain that some changes result in the formation of new materials, and that this kind of change is not usually reversible. |
| Whole school initiatives |
|  Recycling bins Become a plastic clever school Litter campaigns Community litter pick Education/posters to use the correct bins  |