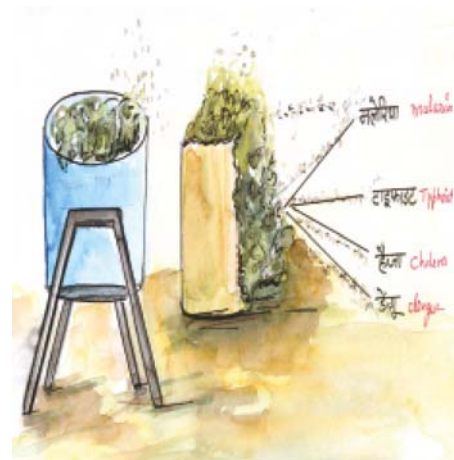


- You might have seen many animals like cows, dogs and pigs around garbage along roadside.
- You also might have felt that dirty garbage collected on the roadside is the main cause of breeding and spreading bacteria.
- In your opinion, what measures must be taken to make our environment clean and safe?

Once a girl took a cat to a hospital for animals. The cat had swallowed a plastic bag. Surgery was needed to remove the bag. That was a lucky cat! It was saved.



Many animals die by swallowing plastic bags or pieces of glass. Many small or big animals such as squirrels, rats, dogs, stray cows, goats and even birds die because of eating plastic garbage. Sometimes they put their heads in the plastic bags and get stuck and the poor, dumb creatures die due to suffocation. For example, plastic bags thrown into the water are dangerous for fish, sea animals and water birds. A transparent plastic bag filled with water looks like a jelly fish which is a favourite food of sea turtles. A team of scientists found a sea turtle that had swallowed fifty plastic bags! Fortunately, it was also saved.



Plastic or any other such waste causes great harm to environment. For example, plastic waste does not allow even the soil to breathe. It causes pollution of soil, water and air.

We pollute our environment by throwing different kinds of waste carelessly. Methods of waste reduction, waste reuse and recycling are the preferred options for managing waste. This problem is more serious in cities because sometimes it is difficult to find a proper place to dump the waste. Garbage bins overflow in big cities. The waste begins to rot after few hours and stinks. It becomes a breeding place for harmful bacteria which would spread ill health and diseases like malaria, typhoid, cholera and dengue, etc.



All of us must be careful about disposing the waste. We should never throw it carelessly. We should always dump it into garbage bins. Some of the waste from the kitchen can be dumped into a pit in the garden and covered with soil. After a couple of months, this waste turns into rich manure. This manure can make the garden soil fertile.

We can encourage people to bring their own reusable bags for packaging, to choose reusable products such as cloth napkins and reusable plastic and glass containers.

All the methods of waste prevention mentioned herein are required for

public awareness and participation.

The government has taken effective major steps to manage waste reduction. Plastic bags are banned. Reuse of shopping bags is mandatory. Waste collector goes door to door to collect household waste. Dustbins have been kept on public places, roadsides, parks, streets and market places. Used paper waste can also be recycled for making cards, cardboards, boxes and plates. By following such methods of garbage disposal, we can keep our surroundings clean and healthy and be part of this great mission.

### Glossary:

reduce	:	decrease; make less
swallow	:	to make food or drink go down one's throat without chewing
garbage	:	household waste or rubbish
stray	:	homeless
get stuck	:	can't move
suffocation	:	feel difficulty in breathing
transparent	:	see through: clear
pollute	:	to make dirty
acute	:	very serious
rot	:	decay
stink	:	to smell bad
recycle	:	reprocess, reuse
disposal	:	removal; clearance

### Activity I

1. What do you understand by these words. Collect more information with the help of your teacher.

- i. garbage    ii. recycle    iii. manure    iv. pollution    v. bacteria

**2. Answer these questions in about 20-30 words each:**

- i. What are the preferred options for managing waste?
- ii. Where are we supposed to dispose our kitchen waste?
- iii. How are plastic bags dangerous to animals?
- iv. How is plastic harmful to the environment?
- v. Which place becomes the breeding place for harmful bacteria?
- vi. How can we encourage the public to help in waste prevention?
- vii. What safety measures has the government taken to manage waste reduction?

### Activity II

**Make meaningful pairs of phrases from A and B columns.**

A	B
vehicles	pits in backyard/garden.
dig some	go to an efficient surgeon.
consume	pollute air.
clean water	to make soil fertile.
for surgery	three litres of water everyday.
use manure	is always transparent.

### Activity III

**1. Fill in the blanks with the past forms of the verbs given in the brackets and read the paragraph.**

In the Olympic games.....(hold) at Atlanta in 1996, Leander Paes ..... (win) the bronze medal. When he .....(return) to India, he was given a hero's welcome. Hundreds of students .....(go) to the airport to receive him. When they .....(see) him, they ..... (cheer) loudly and .....(garland) him. Some of them .....(take) his autograph.

**2. Look at the following sentences:**

- I. If we throw the waste in dustbins, the environment will be healthy.  
 ii. If you refuse to use the plastic carry bags, the shopkeepers will not keep them.

[These are the examples of open conditional sentences]

**Match the sentences under column A with the correct endings in column B.**

A	B
1. If he comes late,	a. the surroundings will remain clean.
2. If the children do not keep their books at proper place,	b. I'll tell her the whole event.
3. If Mary picks up the phone,	c. if his father permits.
4. Suraj will go to the party	d. the teacher will question him.
5. If you don't litter,	e. they will not find them easily.

### Activity IV

- I. Divide your class in two groups and visit a public place like surroundings of the school/bus stand, etc. They are dirty, aren't they? Find out the reasons for it and speak out one by one.  
 ii. Speak out what you can do to keep the public places clean.

### Activity V

- I. How can we contribute to keep our environment clean and free from disease? Make a list of dos and don'ts. Work in groups.

Dos	Don'ts

**Activity VI**

1. Place three baskets in your class with labels plastic, paper and cloth.
2. Divide the class into three groups and assign a basket to each group.
3. Sort and collect waste materials in these baskets for a month.
4. Design something that can be made from the material from the box. It should be useful.

There are some items that are prepared out of the waste material. You can prepare a good number of such items. Take help of your parents/friends to prepare at least five such things.



*Reduce, Reuse, Recycle*