



# SEPARATE WASTE COLLECTIONS

Have you ever thought about the fact that the human being is the only animal that produces waste? Each of us, in fact, produces around 1.5 kg of it per day. Shocking, isn't it? And even more so, if you think that a third of this is food waste.

We get rid of lots of things that are no use to us anymore, but what if we stopped for a minute to think about the value of what we're throwing away?  
OK, you'll say, but what concrete actions can we take?

It's very simple: to begin with, we can separate our waste for collection. It's an easy thing to do, and once we've learnt the basic rules it all becomes automatic.

As you know, producing a new object means using very costly raw materials, which are becoming less and less available in nature. So why not try to replace these, at least partly, with materials we've thrown away?

There are just a few, very simple rules to learn. Want to know more?

Start the first film-clip!



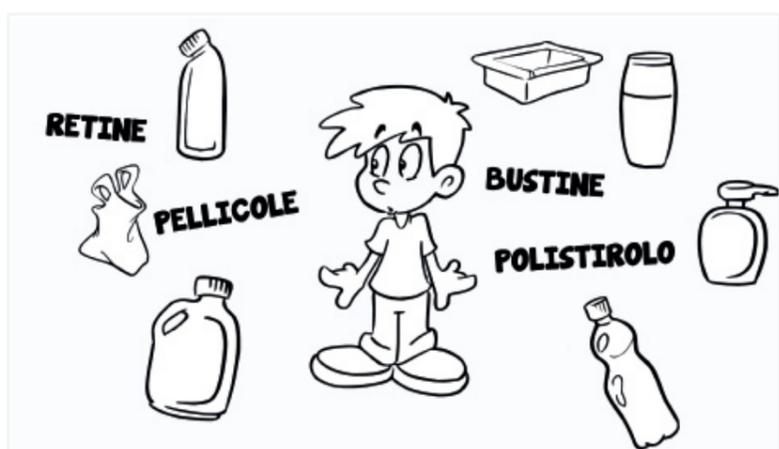
## PACKAGING AND CONTAINERS

Did you see how much plastic there is and how to choose carefully the packaging that has to be recycled accurately? Now that it's all clear to you, you just have to put it into practice at home, with large

bottles, small containers, tubs, nets, plastic wrap, bags, polystyrene . . . I won't list them all because you're bound to know more than me by now.

Let's move on to organic, the waste from preparing meals and leftovers of food. Do you ever cook? Or even only clear the table? Don't tell me you never help at home: I don't believe it! Try clearing the table, and you'll see that there are leftovers that can easily be transformed into compost. Compost is a nutrient that feeds the soil and allows new agricultural products to grow healthy and in abundance.

Start the third film-clip!



## PAPER AND CARDBOARD

Recycling paper is very important; it allows us to save lots of trees and transform an item of waste into a resource. Did you know that today all cardboard is made with recycled paper? And a lot of printer paper or newspapers come from recycled paper. No tree is cut down, forests grow peacefully, and cellulose is regenerated. Your exercise book is probably made from recycled paper or maybe when you need another one you could buy one that is made from recycled paper.

As well as paper, we produce a lot of waste made of plastic – packaging and containers that are useful for carrying liquids and drinks but that, once emptied, are no more use. You could fill up your room with them in a very short time, or even your classroom. But don't worry, with separate waste collections we put a valuable material back into circulation.

And how do we do this? Start the second film-clip!





## ORGANIC

Compost is great, isn't it? This is why we say that flowers are born from compost! It's the most natural process in the world; nothing is created and nothing is destroyed but everything is transformed. And if this is true for organic, just imagine what it's like for glass!

The ancient Egyptians were really good at making glass; it's obtained from silica – normal sand – melted at very high temperatures. This process requires a lot of energy. But if we produce glass starting from recycled glass, we need much less – less petroleum, less CO<sub>2</sub>, less pollution and less greenhouse gases. In fact, if we recycle properly, we need less of everything and our lives are improved!

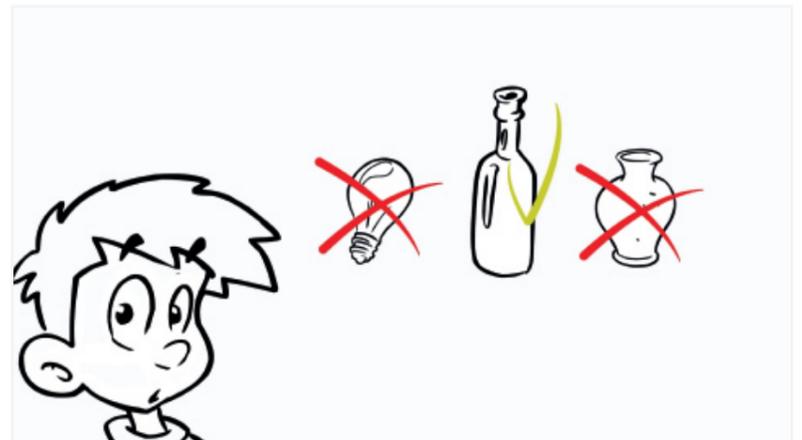
Now start the fourth film-clip!

## GLASS

Have you understood it now? Bottles and jars, yes, but light bulbs and glass panes, no. There's one material left – metal. Aluminium, steel, tinplate, cans, pots and tins: lots of things are made with metal but the really great thing is that metal, like glass, can be endlessly recycled. Today, it's a tin, tomorrow a shovel, the day after a bicycle and the day after that . . . no, that's enough: instead of talking about recycling and the environment we're enumerating all the verb forms and their declensions and I'm sure it's a waste of time, because you are bound to know them all really well from memory!

Better to move on to the metals: aluminium, steel and tinplate.

Start the fifth film-clip!



## METALS

Have we finished? Isn't there anything else to recycle? Just a minute! We've still got the materials that can only go into residual waste left: there aren't very many of them and they're getting fewer all the time, and if you're very careful they will be reduced to just a tiny, tiny amount.

Start the sixth film-clip!

## DÉCHETS ULTIMES

Is everything clear? We've almost finished, but there's just one final surprise.

Just so you don't go wrong, always remember to follow the rule of the four Rs.

Reduce the amount of waste you produce, mainly packaging and containers. Buy products loose or on tap and, where possible, carry out domestic composting.

Reuse all the items that used to seem like garbage: plastic bags, glass bottles and all those containers that – when they've been washed – may be used to contain other things. Also, things that are no longer of use to us may be extremely useful to someone else: there are a lot of associations, for example, that collect old clothes to distribute them to people in need.

Recycle materials by implementing high-quality separate waste collections. But you know more or less all about this now, don't you?

Recover the things that are no use any more, and produce energy and heat from them.

SMALL ACTIONS GREAT RESULTS

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gXu7VUlljv0>

