



10 WAYS TO CREATE LESS WASTE



by Mary Boone

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Words in **BOLD** are in the glossary.

WHAT IS WASTE?

Waste is anything we throw away. Spoiled food is waste. A broken toy is waste. So is an empty juice box. Waste is stuff we want to get rid of.

For Review Only





HOW MUCH WASTE IS THERE?

The average person in the United States makes 1,642 pounds (745 kilograms) of waste per year! That's a lot. It's the same weight as nine adult kangaroos! Where does all that waste go?

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WASTE PROBLEMS

Garbage trucks take waste to the **landfill**. Waste gives off harmful **chemicals** as it breaks down. The chemicals go into the soil. They pollute the air. They get into the water. Making less waste is a way to help.

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10 WAYS YOU CAN CREATE LESS WASTE

1. Get a **recycle** bin. Learn what packaging can be recycled where you live. Separate these items from waste. Plastic water bottles can be recycled. So can boxes, jars, and cans. Soon, recycling will be a habit!



2. Packaging isn't the only thing you can recycle. Don't throw away toys or clothes you've outgrown. Give them to friends. Or **donate** them to a **charity** or a second-hand store.

