



Putting Waste in its Place



Sorting Waste: Recycle, Compost, or Landfill?

Know Before You Throw:

The journey of waste starts with you — before it ever reaches Roseridge. If something is in good shape, it can be reused or donated. But other waste needs to be sorted: compost, recycle, or landfill? What you do before it leaves your home makes a difference.

Your Task

On the next page, draw a line from each item to the bin where it belongs. Use blue, green, and black pencil crayons:

Blue for Recycle

Green for Compost

Black for Landfill

Recycle

Compost

Landfill

Sort These Items

- * Banana Peel
- * Candy Wrappers
- * Chicken Bones
- * Old Running Shoes
- * Clam Shell (berry containers)
- * Pencils and Crayons
- * Diapers
- * Empty Peanut Butter Jars
- * Yogurt Container
- * Egg Shells
- * Brown Paper Bag
- * Soiled Paper Towel

Can you help me
sort my waste?
Where do you think
these should go?



Putting Waste in its Place

Recycle, Compost, or Landfill?



Banana Peel



Candy Wrappers



Old shoes



Chicken Bones



Clam shell container



Crayons and Pencils



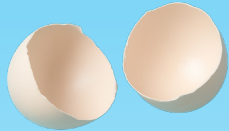
Diaper



Peanut Butter Jar



Yogurt container



Egg Shells



Paper Bag



Soiled Paper Towel



RECYCLE



COMPOST



LANDFILL

Teacher Resource – Putting Waste in Its Place

This activity supports Grade 4 science outcomes in Alberta's waste and Our World unit and directly reinforces the visuals, terms, and decision points introduced in the Roseridge educational video.

Students will identify everyday waste items and correctly sort them into the appropriate stream: compost, recycle, or landfill, using the same categories they would encounter at home or at Roseridge.

Learning Connection

This activity helps students understand that not all waste belongs in the garbage, and that the sorting decisions they make in class are the same ones that shape their homes and communities.

- * By sorting familiar items into recycle, compost, or landfill, students begin to:
- * Recognize value in materials that might otherwise be thrown away
- * Understand that sorting is a learned skill, not just a rule
- * See landfill as the last resort, not the default

This reinforces two key ideas:

- * Waste can be a resource — if it's handled properly
- * Your decision at the bin matters — recovery starts at home

This task strengthens categorization, decision-making, and environmental literacy, while reflecting the actual sorting process used at Roseridge — not a generic "blue bin" model.

It's not about memorizing the "right" answer. It's about learning how to think through the choice. That's what makes it real-world learning.

Instructions

- * Provide students with the sorting worksheet.
- * Ask them to draw a line from each item to the correct bin:

Blue for Recycle | Green for Compost | Black for Landfill

Review answers together and encourage discussion about why each item goes where.

classroom Extensions

1 – Group Sort:

Bring in clean, classroom-safe waste examples for a hands-on sort activity.

2 – Waste Audit Challenge:

Track how much waste your class creates in a day. Could anything have been diverted?

3 – Compare Systems:

Research how other provinces or countries sort their waste. What's different? What's the same?

4 – Action Plan:

Create a class poster about what should go in each bin based on your municipality's rules.

Task challenge Answers

* Banana Peel	Compost
* Candy Wrappers	Landfill
* Chicken Bones	Compost
* Old Running Shoes	Landfill (or donated if good)
* Clam shell (berry containers)	Recycling
* Pencils and Crayons	Landfill
* Diapers	Landfill
* Empty Peanut Butter Jars	Recycling
* Yogurt Container	Recycling
* Egg Shells	Compost
* Brown Paper Bag	Recycling
* Soiled Paper Towel	Compost



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