

Trash'n Trace

with Caudwell Children

In partnership with



Brunel Foundation



Recycling Litter - Safety Tips for Parents & Carers

Collecting and recycling plastic litter is a great way to clean up your local neighbourhood and keep active at the same time; whether it's outside your school, children's playground, favourite park or local woodland.

Here are some useful tips to help you and your child collect litter safely.

1. Choose an area in advance

Let your child decide on the area they would like to help clean up. It's best to tackle a small area in your first attempt, as this will give your child a sense of achievement once it has been cleared.

2. Health and safety assessment

Once you have chosen an area to clean up, it is advisable to visit the site in advance and check for possible hazards:

- Stay away from any areas where traffic levels are high. Stick to pedestrian areas.
- Take note of anything that could cause harm to anyone taking part, such as broken glass, canisters or sharp objects. Tell your child to only collect plastic litter. Adults can remove any other items of litter as they wish.
- Take a first aid kit with you and antibacterial wipes in the event of anyone getting a graze and scratch.

3. Check the weather forecast

Collecting litter in the pouring rain isn't much fun, so check the weather forecast before heading out. An hour or two of clear, dry weather is ideal.

4. Only participate during daylight hours

Collecting litter in low light conditions isn't advisable. Only take part during daylight hours when visibility is good.

What plastic can become...

Today a plastic bottle might contain your favourite drink, but what might it become when you recycle it?



The plastic contained in milk bottles, shampoo bottles and fabric conditioner bottles are all made from different types of plastic.



When plastic bottles are recycled, the plastic can be melted down and re-used to make new bottles, plastic containers or even garden chairs.



Even plastic shopping bags and bubble wrap can be re-cycled and re-used. The plastic contained within them can even be turned into the plastic slide at your favourite playground.

The sturdier plastic used for soft drinks and water can be recycled for use in clothing, sleeping bags and even carpets!

Share your pictures

Take 'before and after' photos of the area you have cleared and of the litter you have collected. Please share your pics and videos on social media with your friends and family and don't forget to tag Caudwell Children!

5. Wear suitable clothing

Before setting off to your chosen area, make sure you plan appropriate clothing. If it's a local playground, casual clothes may be fine. If it's a muddy woodland, wellie boots may be needed! Gloves are also highly recommended, for both adults and children. Fluorescent jackets or bands may also be needed for children in locations where traffic, cyclists or joggers may pass.

6. Equipment

You'll need at least one bag to put recyclable litter in and a second bag for any other litter you choose to clean up. Take a litter grabber too if you have one.

7. Agree a finishing time

Set a sensible finishing time and don't take on too much for too long!! Give yourself a rest break if needed too. Whatever you manage to collect is good for your local community environment.

8. Mobile App

Don't forget to take your smart phone and make sure you download the App, so that you can scan in the plastic items you find! So far, over 140,000 items have been collected by participants, so how many more can you find?!

9. Celebrate your child's achievement

Once finished, give your child a big clap and let them know what a great job they have done and why it's important to recycle.

10. Take part indoors!

Remember you can always take part in Trash and Trace at home, sorting and scanning items for the recycle bin that would otherwise go into the main bin also can form part of this challenge!

Fun ways people have recycled!

Recycling in your home can be lots of fun and some people have taken their recycling to creative extremes! Here's some wacky ways people have made cool stuff from things that were destined for the rubbish tip!



Turn bath tubs into seating



A piano turned into a bookshelf



Old spoons and bottles to become a bird feeder

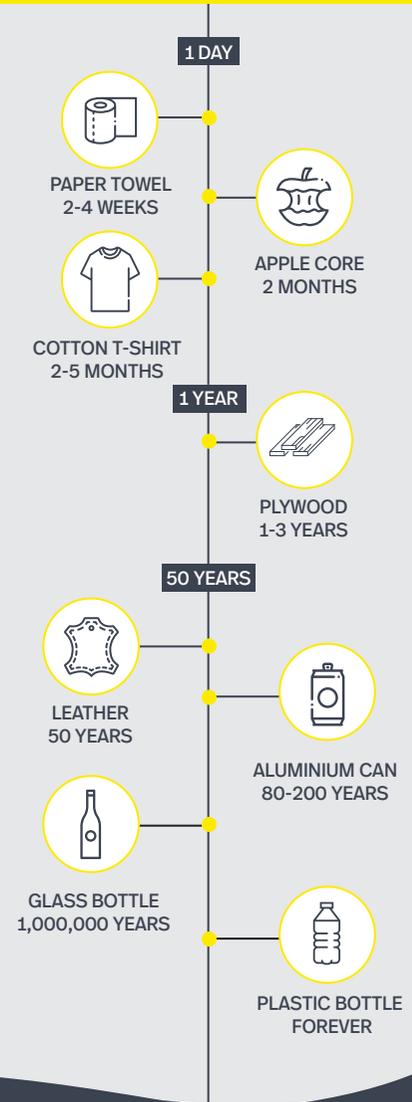


Turn a car engine into a table



Drinks bottles turned into hanging plants

How long do different materials take to biodegrade?



Thank you to our sources:
recycleandrecoverplastics.org www.brownrecycling.co.uk
sassytownliving.com boredpanda.com engine-table.co.uk
www.keepbritaintidy.org

Stay safe, keep active and **have fun!**

f caudwellchildren @caudwellkids @caudwellchildren



Brunel Foundation

caudwell
children
Changing Children's Lives