

Year 3/4

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| biodegrade | To break down and return to nature. |
| natural resource | Something we need or use that comes from our planet and supports life on Earth. |
| packaging* | The material an object is wrapped in to protect it. |
| pollution* | The damage caused to land, air or water by harmful substances. |
| recycle | To turn waste into new materials or products. |
| reduce | To use less. |
| resource | Anything we need or use to live. |
| reuse | To use something more than once. |
| sustainable | Activities that use resources responsibly and cause little or no damage to the environment, ensuring they can continue for a long time. |
| waste* | A product with no further use that may be disposed of. |

Reducing waste is the best choice because it stops rubbish from being created in the first place, which means less pollution and fewer resources used.

Reusing is the next best option because it gives things a second life, so we do not need to make as many new things.

Recycling is good, but it still uses energy and resources to turn old materials into something new. That is why it is better to reduce and reuse first and only recycle when we have to.

*key vocabulary

Year 5/6

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| biodiversity | The variety of living things in an area. |
| carbon footprint | The amount of carbon dioxide released into the environment. |
| climate change | A change in the Earth's temperature, weather and rainfall over a long time. |
| fossil fuel* | Fuel, such as coal and gas, made from decomposed animals and plants. |
| non-renewable resources | Natural materials that cannot be replaced quickly. |
| plastic pollution* | Plastics in an environment that harm living things. |
| renewable resources | Natural materials that can be replaced or used again. |

