

Recess Maths

Volume, cost and landfill

What have you brought with you for recess today?

Take a photo of your recess.

Use this table to describe how your recess is packaged:

Re-useable packaging	Recyclable packaging	Compostable packaging	Packaging to landfill

- What is the **monetary** cost of your recess?
- How much do you pay for a pack / kilogram of this item?
- How much does this equate to as a serve?
- How much would you spend if you ate this same recess each day for the week?
- What if you ate it each day for 40 weeks?
- What is the **environmental** cost of your recess?

Using the following table, count how much packaging is left over that could be reused, recycled, composted, or sent to landfill. Remember to count both **individual packs** and the **required amount of outer packaging**:

Are you someone who brings **pre-packaged food** or do you **buy in bulk** and use small containers? Maybe it is a combination.

Presentation

This page is a planning and recording guide. You should present your information on an A3 page. You should highlight the savings (monetary and environmental) in a clear manner as your aim is to convince others of the benefits. Use actual costs and photos to enhance your work.

	Re-useable packaging	Recyclable packaging	Compostable packaging	Packaging to landfill
Daily				
In a week				
In a year				

Buying in Bulk vs Pre-packaged Food

Your investigation needs you to calculate the monetary and environmental costs of what you actually did today and compare them to the opposite style. How different are the financial and environmental impacts based on the contents of your lunchbox alone.

How many people in your family pack a similar lunchbox? How does this impact on your figures? Calculate the potential harm / saving both financially and environmentally if your data was applied for your whole class, over a whole year? **How much landfill (volume) and money could be saved if an entire school our size only used plastic containers, no pre-packaged snacks and no glad wrap?**

With thanks to Debbie Taylor – Littlehampton Primary School – Year 6/7 Class 2012