Litter Analysis

Did you know? According to the Scottish Environmental Protection Agency. Scotland has generated over 2.4 million tonnes of household waste every year, for almost a decade. What's good to know is that we are reducing that number steadily.

You'll need:
- Survey sheets from previous litter pick/survey
- Paper
- Pen or pencil
- Hand sanitiser
- A ruler
- A protractor (for spicy)

Optional:
- Colouring pencils/pens

What is Data? Data is a collection of facts, such as numbers, words, measurements, observations or even just descriptions of things.

The data you have collected could be any of those listed above. It is now time to convert that data to a graph to make it easily understood by anyone who sees it. There are a number of ways we can represent the data we have collected, such as with a Tally Chart, Bar Graph or Pie Chart.

Mild: Using the data collected from your previous litter survey, create a Tally Chart to either show how much litter you found on different days, or how many kinds of litter you found on one day. Is there anything interesting about your data? What did you learn from your Tally Chart? Decorate your chart as much as possible to put your own personal stamp on it.

Unsure how to do a Tally Mark Table? Watch this video

Medium: Using the data collected from your previous litter survey, create a Bar Graph to either show how much litter you found on different days, or how many kinds of litter you found on one day. Is there anything interesting about your data? What did you learn from your completed Bar Graph? Decorate your Graph as much as possible to put your own personal stamp on it.

Unsure how to make a Bar Graph? Watch this video

Spicy: Using the data collected from your previous litter survey, create a Pie Chart to either show how much litter you found on different days, or how many kinds of litter you found on one day. Remember, when you are converting data into a Pie Chart you first need to change your data into degrees. Is there anything interesting about your data? What did you learn from your completed Pie Chart? Decorate your chart as much as possible to put your own personal stamp on it.

Unsure how to make a Pie Chart? Watch this video

Extension: Try making a Tally Chart, Bar Graph and Pie Chart for your data. Which one do you think works the best and why? Continue to collect data during this time at home and keep adding to your results to see if anything changes significantly. Think of ways you and your family can encourage others to not litter. Some ideas include:

- Making posters for your neighbourhood.
- Writing a letter to your local authority to ask for help.
- Joining your local Beautiful Scotland or It's Your Neighbourhood

If you use this activity let us know! Share your results using #EcoSchoolsAtHome on Facebook, on Twitter or on Instagram.