

#### **About This Booklet**

This booklet has been designed to engage local children in recycling and their environment and educate them about:

- The importance of recycling at home.
- Why recycling is important to the planet
- How everyone can make a difference

If you would like more information about education sessions or resources for a school or community group please get in touch. For details on recycling at home visit our Website: www.thanet.gov.uk/recycling Telephone: 01843 577000

### Recycle for Thanet and save our planet!







Designed by Designed by Designed by Molly Whitnall, Scott Rooney, age 9

**Designed by** age 6

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#### Meet the team...

I'm Barry the Brilliant bin and I'm here to show you all the different items you can recycle around the home. My mission is to make everyone a top recycler!

> I'm Captain Climate and I'm here to show you how putting your litter in the bin and by recycling more you can help save our planet! My mission is to protect our environment and animals from pollution and global warming.

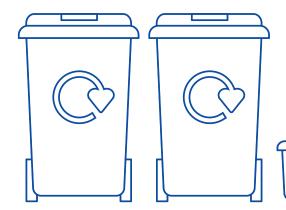
We need everyone to recycle as much as they can to help us make Thanet a top recycling area! Anything that we can recycle should go in the correct coloured recycling containers, not the black bin! Rubbish is sometimes called waste or refuse. At home you should have a black container for refuse or general waste that cannot be recycled.

You should also have some of these recycling containers.

"Recycling is using something old to make something new."

I'm Mr Trasher and I'm here to remind everyone to put their litter in a bin and not drop it in on our streets, parks and beaches. My mission is to make Thanet a litter free zone!

> Together we are here to show you how you can help us save our planet!



Q: Can you colour them in the right colours?

Q: Do you know what goes in each of the coloured containers?



## What's the problem Captain Climate?

Everything that ends up in the black bin, that could have been recycled in one of the coloured containers, is bad news for our environment.

Some of the rubbish in the black bin is burned and turned into energy, but some of it ends up in landfill and that's bad.

"If we don't recycle Planet Earth will not be a nice place to live."

#### Why is landfill bad?

Landfill is a rubbish dump that over time becomes a mountain of smelly waste that can produce poisonous gases. These gases get into the air we breathe and can trap heat from the sun which makes temperatures rise so the world gets warmer. This is called global warming and causes climate change around the world.

This means that the North and South pole are melting as a result of the world being warmer and this causes sea levels to rise a bit like when an ice cube melts in a glass of water.

Animals like polar bears are losing their home (habitat) and may disappear (become extinct) as a result. Losing such beautiful creatures from our planet would be a disaster for everyone.

Landfill sites look horrible and can leak their poisonous liquids into the ground polluting rivers and lakes as a result, and killing fish, birds and wildlife.

There are 7 billion people on our planet and this number is growing every day. All these people are producing more and more waste which means us humans must find other things to do with our rubbish instead of sending it to landfill, or our planet will be one big stinky landfill site before we know it!

> A lot of rubbish at landfills takes hundreds of years to break down and rot away (decompose) into the ground. Things like glass and plastic can take millions of years!

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### **Barry the brilliant bin!**

So there are lots of things we can do to save the planet, starting with recycling at home!

Recycling means we will use our rubbish to make new things, which will reduce the amount of rubbish in landfill and help the environment.

Eg. wood is needed to make paper and cardboard, so instead of cutting down trees we can recycle our old paper and card to make it into new items.

"We all need to remember the three R's."

### Think before you bin it!

Instead of chucking that can, bottle or other item into the bin ask yourself 'Can I recycle this instead?' You will be amazed at how much recycling you have by the end of the week and how little there is in the black bin! **1 Reduce** the amount we throw away by donating unwanted things to charity or do a boot fair or garage sale.

**2 Re-use** items again and again such as plastic bags for when we go shopping, or glass jars for storing things in.

**3** Recycle more by putting it in your recycling containers or taking it to local recycling sites at supermarkets.

Make sure the lids are removed from plastic bottles, this means they can be squashed down easily.

Instead of spending hundreds, thousands, or even millions of years rotting in landfill...

• Within 1 week paper can be made into new paper and cardboard.

• Glass can be recycled within 6 weeks to make new bottles and jars.

• Plastic can be recycled within 4 weeks to make new items like toys, carrier bags, fleece clothing and garden chairs.

## What can we recycle in Thanet?

Draw a line from the items to the correct containers they belong in. P.S. One of the items is there to trick you! It can't be recycled at home!

> n, plastic bottle, fizzy drink can, pump spray, aerosol can nstick, apple, eggshell

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T<sub>ea</sub> bag

Red bag: Cereal box, pizza box, paper aeroplane, newspaper You can't recycle the crisp packet!

Don't forget to put the right things in the right bins!

Cereal

Parents remember... all the info you need is on the council website www.thanet.gov.uk/recycling

A. Blue bin: glass jar, glass bottle, juice cartor Brown food bin: teabag, banana, chicken drui

Spray

## So where does rubbish and recycling go?

**1** Our collection lorries take the rubbish and the recycling away from your doorstep and off to be sorted. There are different sections inside the lorries which separate the rubbish from the recycling.

**2** After it has been collected from you house it goes off to be weighed, and then split apart. The rubbish goes off to landfill or to be burned and turned into energy.

**3** Each pile which has been sorted is then sent off to a company who recycles it into new products. The recycling goes off to a sorting factory. The food recycling goes off to be composted or turned into energy

**4** The mixed recycling is loaded onto a conveyor belt where both high tech machines and people sort out the different items into separate piles of glass, plastic, paper, metals etc.

**5** Paper is taken to a mill, it goes into a high speed washing machine with soap that removes the ink. The mixture is then pressed by steam rollers and then can be made into newspapers, cardboard and paper towels.

6 Metals are taken to a smelter, where cans are melted together using a high heat into metal blocks. These blocks are then sent on to factories where they are then made into new products such as new drinks cans, bikes and lots more.

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**7** Plastic is taken to a recycling factory where it's fed into a grinder that cuts it into tiny pieces. It is then melted together by a high heat and is then ready to be made into new plastic items like toys, chairs, bottles and even clothing!

And that's how we recycle, by turning something old into something new!

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### **Food Recycling**

Food recycling can be put out for collection every week in your brown food container. Egg shells, banana skins and tea bags, along with meat bones, vegetable peelings and leftovers can all be recycled.

The food collection is every week so it doesn't smell as bad as if you put it in the black bin which gets collected every two weeks! Once we have collected the food waste, it gets taken to a place where it is turned into energy to power homes, schools and other buildings. Or sometimes it gets turned into compost.

Compost is a soil which is made when leaves are mixed with other garden waste and food, and are let left to rot over time. Compost is used to help vegetables and crops grow in the fields.

Some of you might have a compost bin at home in your garden, which you can also recycle your food waste in. The compost you make can help plants in your garden to grow.

Food waste that gets put in your black rubbish bin might end up in landfill, and when it rots it makes a harmful gas called methane. Methane can cause global warming. So recycling your food waste in the brown bin is much better!



How about...

Write a shopping list so you don't buy more food than you need? Freeze some food like bread so it lasts longer. Use up leftovers the next day for another meal!

Wasting food costs the average family with children almost £60 a month and is bad for global warming too.

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### Mr Trasher talks litter!





We don't want our beaches to look like this...

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Every day people throw litter on the floor, because they can't be bothered to find a bin to put it in. Some of this litter has to be cleaned up by the council, but other bits of litter can blow into people's gardens, our parks or into the sea.

We want people to put their litter in a bin, or take it home if the bins are full. If you take it home - you might be able to recycle some of it too!

We all play a part in keeping Thanet clean and tidy together!

### Litter is harmful for wildlife

...and it's our job to look after our environment so that we are protecting the homes of the creatures that live and feed there.

Lots of marine creatures die every year because of plastic litter that humans have polluted the sea with. If we all put our rubbish in the bin, recycled more plastic and thought more about where our rubbish can end up the sea would be a lot cleaner and safer for wildlife.

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#### Why is this a problem?

Turtles often mistake plastic carrier bags for jellyfish and eat them. Other sea birds and marine mammals like whales and dolphins do too. Sometimes they get tangled up in our litter which is also bad, as it means they may not be able to find food or escape predators. This is why our litter is so bad for wildlife.



# Would you want to swim in a sea like this?

Count the jellyfish and the plastic bags...

Q. How many can you find?
Q. Can you find Mr Trasher? He's lost amongst the litter.
Q. Name the other sea creatures you can see...



#### Our beaches are beautiful

let's all work together to keep them that way!

Check out our COASTAL CODES at all our main beaches

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Check out our #2minutebeachclean stations across our beaches!

#### Mr Trasher has a friend... Fido!

Dog poo can be dangerous for our health if we touch it, so it's really important that owners clean up after their dogs using a poo bag. After all dogs can't clean up their own poo can they! So it's our job as good pet owners to make sure we do.

Otherwise FIDO has to come along and clean up, and he's an expensive machine that costs the council a lot of money. That's money that could be spent on better things!

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Why don't you remind your family to carry poo bags with them when they take the family dog out for a walk!

> Fido says pick it up! Remember any public litter bin will do

## Help keep our parks and beaches clean!

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How many poos can you find for Fido to clean up? Lots of us have pet dogs and like to take them for walks. But it's important that we make sure we clean up after our dogs and don't leave the poo behind for other people to step in! YUK!

#### Clean up and recycle to save our Planet!

#### Now you are ready to go and save planet Earth!

By all doing a little, we can achieve a lot. If everyone took their litter home, put their litter in a bin or recycled it, Thanet would be clean and litter free! It's important that we all remember that it only takes a couple of minutes to clean up after ourselves and our pets, and get rid of our waste in the right way. We can make a big difference to our environment by thinking about what we are throwing away, and where it's going.

Remember! Recycling is important because... It saves energy and reduces pollution, giving us cleaner air to breathe. It reduces landfill sites which produce harmful gases leading to global warming. It helps to save our planet's natural materials such as coal, oil and gas which are running out fast.



**1** Reduce - the amount of rubbish we throw away

**2** Reuse - items for other uses

**3 Recycle** - everything you can instead of sending it to landfill in your black bin

Recycling isn't difficult and it can be fun too! Can you help someone else recycle more? Become a recycling champion in your family or school and spread the word about what goes in the different containers. The more of us that recycle, the better for our planet!

#### Recycle for Thanet and save our Planet

If you would like more information about education sessions, or resources for a school or community group please get in touch.

For details on recycling at home and how to get replacement containers visit our Website: www.thanet.gov.uk/recycling Telephone: 01843 577000