

PORT PHILLIP BAY LITTER BREAKDOWN ACTIVITY



There are **18 litter picture cards** of the most common litter items on the beaches of Port Phillip Bay. This litter can also be found on streets, parks and school grounds in Melbourne.

There are **6 time line cards** relating to how long each of the 18 items will take to break down (if in fact they do breakdown).

Match the picture litter cards to the time line cards. How long do you think each item will take to break down?

Find out if you are correct

Provocation Questions:

Why is litter a problem?

What is the difference between waste and litter?

What can impact how an item breaks down? (hints: sunlight, water, heat, cold, landfill, oxygen, bacteria, biodegradable)

Does plastic litter/ waste really 'go away'?

What type of litter did Aboriginal people have?

How can we reduce litter?

Do your own litter collection (audit) and calculate which are the most littered items



18 litter picture cards



Cigarette Butt



Apple Core



Steel Bottle cap



Plastic Drinking Straw



Plastic Bottle Lid



Lollie Wrapper



Sushi fish (soya sauce container)



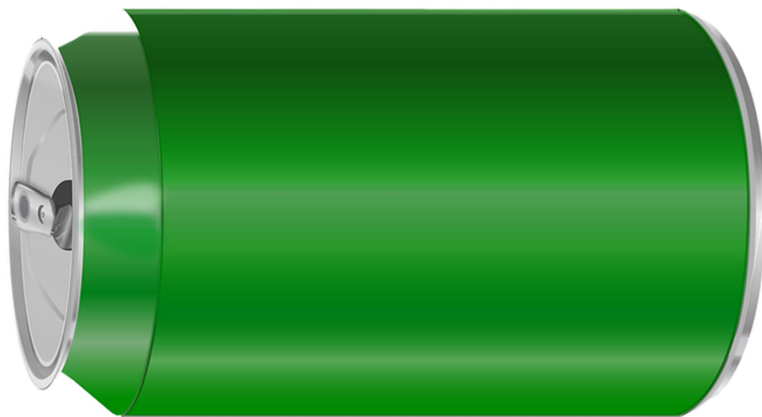
Take Away Coffee Cup



Coffee Cup Lid



Polystyrene



Aluminium Can



Dog Poo



Paper



Nurdle



Slurpee Cup



Plastic Bag



Plastic Bottle



Glass Bottle

UP TO 6 MONTHS

(Hint: 3 objects)

UP TO 50 YEARS

(Hint: 7 objects)

UP TO 200 YEARS

(Hint: 2 objects)

UP TO 500 YEARS

(Hint: 2 objects)

UP TO 10,000 YEARS

(Hint: 2 objects)

1 MILLION YEARS OR NEVER

(Hint: 2 objects)

Litter Breakdown results

Up to 6 Months	Up to 50 years	Up to 200 years	Up to 500 years	Up to 10,000 years	1 Million years or Never
3 items	7 items	2 items	2 items	2 items	2 items
Dog Poo	Cigarette butt	Plastic drinking straw	Plastic bottle	Plastic bottle cap	Glass bottle
Apple Core	Steel bottle cap	Aluminium can	Sushi fish (soy sauce)	Nurdles	Polystyrene
Paper	Lollie wrapper				
	Coffee cup lid				
	Coffee cup				
	Plastic bag				
	Slurpee cups				

Compiled from a variety of sources including EPA Port Phillip Bay Beach Litter Survey, Tangaroa Blue, Keep Australia Beautiful WA and 1 Million Women.