

# Learning in the Leaves

## Policy : Waste Disposal

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### Aim:

The overall aim is to support the belief that we should leave the woodland as we found it. The policy provides clear guidelines for the disposal of waste whilst you're in the woodland environment. In this situation we will be referring to three types of waste; general rubbish, food waste and grey water.

### General Rubbish:

When in the woodland environment:

- Ensure there is a clearly designated area for the disposal of general waste, you may consider a hardy container to prevent fauna accessing the waste.
- Recyclable materials should be collected separately.
- Before leaving site you may consider completing a litter pick. The children can form a line and walk slowly across the site picking up any stray litter.
- All rubbish should be taken with you when leaving the site, ensuring recyclable materials are dropped at the appropriate recycling centre.

### Food Waste:

When in the woodland environment:

- People often believe it is acceptable to leave organic waste in the woodland environment, however where possible this should be avoided. Leaving food waste may attract rats and other rodents. Waste food may also form an unnatural food source that fauna may become dependent upon, when you leave/change area this can lead to fauna not being able to survive.
- The same rules apply as for general rubbish. You may wish to keep food waste separate in a hard container so that fauna has no access. The food waste can also be composted once you leave the school site.

### Grey Water:

When in the woodland environment:

- Wash dishes with hot water and a scrubbing sponge. When using soap ensure it is biodegradable camp soap.
- Strain the dish water through a fine mesh screen or fine fabric and into a container. The strainer catches all but the tiniest of food bits and you can then pack them in the designated rubbish area.
- The resulting water is called 'grey water' and should be disposed of by broadcasting it over a wide area. That means throwing the water out in an arc to disperse it as much as possible. This helps it evaporate faster and reduces the attraction for animals.