

## Every "Litter" Bit Hurts

Adapted from: [www.litteritcostsyoudocuments.com/Every%20Litter%20Bit%20Hurts.doc](http://www.litteritcostsyoudocuments.com/Every%20Litter%20Bit%20Hurts.doc)

Definition of "litter": human-generated waste (or trash) that is discarded in an inappropriate place (streets, playgrounds, streams, etc.), or improperly stored trash which has escaped from its container (trash can, dumpster, back of truck, etc.).

Part One: What litter is "bad" litter?

1. Get a "litter" bag from your teacher
2. Empty your trash bag and arrange the items so everyone can see them.
3. List the items in your bag, and don't forget to include the paper bag.
4. Rank the items from "least harmful" to "most harmful."
5. Ranking should be a group decision.
6. Write why you chose one item over another as harmful.

All litter is harmful. Littering is an inappropriate behavior and a bad habit that people have learned.

Part Two: Educating Others

Create a group poster that explains/shows why litter is undesirable. Some ideas are: litter is pollution; it is an eyesore that destroys the beauty of a place. Litter can be dangerous; broken glass or metal can injure. Litter is often eaten by wildlife and this can lead to injury or death. Litter can be a threat to public health; illegally dumped tires are breeding grounds for mosquitoes, and rodents frequent waste piles. Even the odor of trash piles can be offensive.