



Home Economics Food Waste Project 2017-2018

The VOICE Home Economics Food Waste Project is a three part project to educate students about food waste and to empower them to take action on food waste both at school and at home.

This resource has been developed to supplement the curriculum, focusing on the social, economical and environmental issues associated with food waste both locally and globally.

The project involves two visits from VOICE; firstly to present the Food Waste Introduction and Food Waste Challenge and finally to present the class with their award at the end of the project.

Part 1: VOICE Food Waste Introduction	Time
VOICE present intro to the problem & solutions	40 mins

Part 2: Food Waste Challenge	Time
VOICE present challenge to class	40 mins
Teacher and students take on challenge	Over one month period

Part 3: Final Presentation	Time
Students present their project VOICE present certificate	40 mins class

Introduction: Food Waste - What's the problem?

Presented by VOICE representative.

Require; projector & audio for video.

Each student will be given a hand-out to help them follow the presentation.

40mins

Outcomes: Having completed Session 1 students should be able to;

- 📎 Outline the resources and elements in producing food
- 📎 Evaluate the various implications in wasting food
- 📎 Be ready to explore and act on the solutions to prevent food waste

Main Topics Covered:

1. **Food waste exists all along the food production chain;** one third of edible food ends up in the bin.
2. **Food waste is a waste of money;** one household wastes €700 - €1,000 every year.
3. **Food waste and food poverty;** globally, we throw away 1.3 billion tonnes of food annually yet there are around 1.3 billion people going hungry every day.
4. **Food waste and natural resources;** when we throw away food we also waste the resources put in to grow it.
5. **Food waste and climate change;** food waste carbon footprint, food waste produces more greenhouse gas emissions than 37 million cars.¹
6. **Food Waste Solutions;** How to avoid food waste at home and at school.



¹ <https://www.nrdc.org/resources/wasted-how-america-losing-40-percent-its-food-farm-fork-landfill>

Part 2: Food Waste Challenge: Separate food waste from recycling and general waste	Time
VOICE present challenge to class	40 mins single class
Teacher and students complete challenge	Over one month period

1. Implement Food Waste bin collection at school
2. Weigh your waste two week challenge
3. Host a composting demo with StopFoodWaste.ie

The class are encouraged to complete all challenges, the class will be awarded according to the number of challenges completed.

One action - Bronze Award

Two actions - Silver Award

Three actions - Gold Award



Additional Activities: These can be brought into existing home ec classes through the school year.	Time
Film Screening - Just Eat It, Food Waste Documentary	50 mins
Food Waste Quiz	10 mins
Moving Debate	15 mins
Food Rescue Activities; Smart shopping, Awareness Campaign, Making Pickle or Stock, Grow a Herb Garden, Run a Food Rescue.	Depending on action

Here we have some suggested activities that can be easily incorporated into the Home Economics classroom. We encourage the teacher to continue the food waste challenge by reminding students how to reduce and avoid food waste in their regular day to day actions by making it a part of Home Economics common practice.

VOICE Ireland welcomes students to share their stories and achievements of how they are making their school a zero food waste zone!