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| Community Walk – Green Bin Waste hunt |
| Objective |
| Nearly 50% of residents in the Region of Peel use their green bin. In this activity, students will determine usage of green bins in their school community by doing a neighbourhood walk and graphing their results. This activity encourages discussion about why people choose not to use their green bin. |
| Preparation |
| Materials:* Clip board or hard surface to write on for each group
* Tally sheet or blank paper

To prepare, use the online waste collection calendar [www.peelregion.ca/waste/calendar/](http://www.peelregion.ca/waste/calendar/) and choose a residential address near your school to see when Organics is being picked up next alongside Garbage. Schedule a time to do the community walk activity when green bin will be placed out for pick up. Introduction: * For most households, garbage and recycling collection happens every other week
* Garbage is picked up one week
* Recycling is picked up the next
* Organics (green bin waste) is picked up every week

Ask students if they know what the green bin is used for. Discuss with students what goes in the green bin and why it goes there instead of in the garbage or recycling. Use the link to see items that are accepted into the green bin: <https://peelregion.ca/waste/organics/#acceptable>  |
| Activity |
| 1. How many students use a green bin at home? Ask students to tally and calculate the percentage of students that use the green bin. Is it close to the Region of Peel average of nearly 50% participation?
2. As a group, walk in your school neighbourhood. Along the way, ask students to count and record how many houses have both garbage and green bins set out compared to how many houses have just garbage bins.
3. Upon return to the classroom ask students to tally the difference between green bins set out and garbage or recycling bins set out. Were they close to their initial estimates? Direct students to graph their results.
4. Debrief questions for students: Why are there fewer green bins set out compared to garbage? Is it better to compost or to throw all waste in the garbage? What can we do to encourage people to use their green bins?
5. Show students the following video about what happens to organic waste: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4vV5tn4gNNQ>
6. Using the graph, data collected, notes from the video and their own research, ask students to create posters to encourage their school community to use their green bins. Share your work with the Region of Peel by emailing WasteEducation@peelregion.ca.
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