

Space Junk

Student Worksheet

Read the following

Use the following worksheet to determine how much of your lunch is garbage.

Materials

sack lunch
student worksheet
scale
pencil

Procedures

Provide the following information:

Lunch was packaged by: _____

Lunch contents: _____

	TOTAL MASS OF LUNCH AND PACKAGING	MASS OF GARBAGE ALONE	% OF LUNCH THAT WAS GARBAGE
DAY 1			
DAY 2			
DAY 3			

Space Junk (continued)

Student Worksheet

Questions:

1. It costs about \$12,000 for NASA to send one pound into space. If you were taking your lunch into space, how much would it have cost to transport the garbage alone? _____
2. The key to minimizing the amount of garbage that is take into space is to *Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle*. Analyze your lunch, and identify one way to reduce the amount of waste packaging, one way to reuse some of the packaging, and one way to recycle in order to lower the percentage of waste in the lunch.
 - a. Reduce: _____
 - b. Reuse: _____
 - c. Recycle: _____
3. How did the percent of garbage on the second day compare to the percent on the first day? Explain any changes in the percentage.

4. Besides the cost, what other considerations does NASA have to take into account when sending food in space? _____

5. How does this activity help you to think differently about garbage and waste here on Earth? _____
