



**KENT COUNTY
DEPARTMENT OF
PUBLIC WORKS**

TRASH PIZZA

Objective: Visually identify the components of trash that fill a landfill

Grades: 3rd – 5th

Time: 2 class periods

Vocabulary: Landfill, pie chart

Materials: Pizza box, recycled materials, food scraps, plastic pieces, metal pieces, fabric pieces, glass items, yard waste (leaves, flowers, grass), paper/cardboard pieces, wood/sticks, other toys or random items that don't belong in the other groups

Lesson:

During the first class period, break students into groups or as a whole class discuss the following statistics:

In 2015, South Kent Landfill was filled with the following:

37% organic

20% paper

16% inorganic

12% plastics

8% other

5% metal

2% glass

What are some specific things that would fall into each category? Make a list on the board for each category. After discussing these statistics, have students draw a pie chart with this data or draw one together on the board.

Before the next class period, assign students to bring in items from the list on the board so that you can create a 3-D trash pizza from the pie chart that you drew. If students cannot find an item to glue on, they may either cut out a picture of one from a magazine or draw it.



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In the second class period, begin to assemble the trash pizza. On a pizza box or other large cutout of cardboard, draw the pie chart. Begin gluing the appropriate pieces into the correct wedges. Put labels on each wedge to identify the category. To preserve the pizza, you may paint it with polyurethane or a lacquer and then display it to the school.

Extensions:

In a third class period, now discuss if any of those pizza slices could be made smaller. What actions could you take to decrease your landfill waste? Have the students write a commitment card stating an action that they will take to decrease their waste at home or at school.