

# Great Big School Clean 2019

Primary School Pack

22 MARCH -  
23 APRIL 2019



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# About the Great Big School Clean

This spring, Eco-Schools and Keep Britain Tidy are calling on schools to help improve the environment on their doorstep by taking part in the Great Big School Clean.

The Great Big School Clean is part of the Great British Spring Clean, the country's biggest, mass-participation environmental campaign.

We're aiming to inspire around half a million people to join forces - partnering with schools, community organisations, businesses and councils - to collect and safely dispose of litter from our streets, parks and beaches, recycling as much of it as possible.

Join the Great Big School Clean as we stand together and declare that litter degrades the beauty of our environment, threatens our wildlife and is simply not acceptable.

Events will take place from 22 March - 23 April 2019 across the UK, with registration on our website open from mid January 2019. You can hold a clean-up (or several) any time between 22 March - 23 April, but we are calling on schools to take part in a day of action on 22 March.

This booklet is designed to give your pupils ideas, inspiration and advice for their Great Big School Clean clean-up.



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# Keeping Safe during your GBSC clean-up.

Join the Great Big School Clean as we stand together and declare that litter degrades the beauty of our environment, threatens our wildlife and is simply not acceptable.

Events will take place from March 22 – April 23 2019 across the UK, with registration on our website open from mid January 2019. You can hold a clean-up (or several) any time between March 22 – April 23, but we are calling on schools to take part in a day of action on March 22.

This booklet is designed to give you ideas, inspiration and advice for your Great Big School Clean.

We have produced a “how to” guide for those hosting clean-ups, which contains vital health and safety, as well as advice about public liability insurance for your clean-up. This is also applicable to all #GBSchoolClean clean-ups. You can read the guide and the terms and conditions by following this link

<http://www.keepbritaintidy.org/gbsc19-host-terms-and-conditions>

When registering your clean-up, you will be asked to tick a box to say you have read this guidance.



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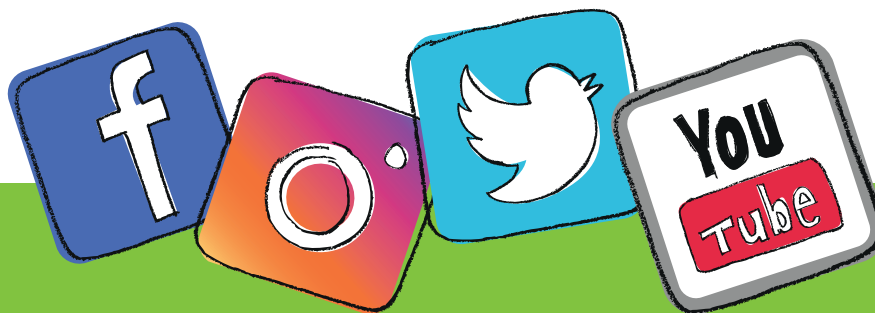
# Why is the Great Big School Clean important?

There are lots of reasons why it's important to get involved. More than 2.25 million pieces of litter are dropped in the UK every day, with litter blighting our streets, parks and beaches and costing us nearly £1 billion a year to clear up.

Litter can also harm wildlife. The RSPCA received over 7,000 calls to report incidents of animals injured by litter in 2017 in England and Wales.

Litter attracts litter. Research conducted by Keep Britain Tidy in 2012 showed that people are more likely to litter where litter is present. The presence of litter can act as an environmental cue (indicating the cleanliness of the site) and a social cue (implying that it is socially acceptable to litter at an already littered site).

Taking part in a litter-pick gives pupils the opportunity to tackle the problem and improve their environment as well as helping to influence habits.



## Share on social:

Share your pictures and plans with us!

Tag @ecoschools @keepbritaintidy #GBSchoolClean and #ecoschools

# What are the benefits to children and the community?

- Clean-ups are fun and rewarding
- Children are able to make a difference to their local area and the world they live in
- There are opportunities for contextual learning with links to the National Curriculum
- Count as evidence towards an international Eco-Schools Green Flag award
- Your school can create strong links with the local community
- Clean-ups improve environmental awareness among pupils.

“The absolute enthusiasm of a group of six-to-eight-year-olds ‘doing their bit’ and loving every second of it – they’d have continued all day, despite the cold!”



# Focus On: Crisp Packets

Every year, we like to look at one specific item of litter and this year our focus will be on crisp packets. During Keep Britain Tidy's Great British Spring Clean in 2018, 49% of participants found crisp packets (or similar) when taking part in a clean-up.

This doesn't surprise us at all. Although crisp packets look like foil, they're actually metalised plastic film that currently cannot be recycled through your curbside collection.

We want to see what we can achieve together with crisps packets as our focus. To do this, we're asking you to collect the following information during each clean-up:

- The total number of crisp packets you picked up
- The number of salt and vinegar, ready salted, cheese and onion and 'other' crisp packets collected

In our additional material section (at the back of this pack) we've included resources to help you collect this information. You can submit your results by filling in our simple online form.

Find it here: <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/EcoSchoolsLitter>



# Registering To Take Part In The Great Big School Clean

We're asking every school who'd like to take part in the Great Big School Clean to register their clean-up at [www.keepbritaintidy.org/gbschoolclean](http://www.keepbritaintidy.org/gbschoolclean)

At Keep Britain Tidy, we want to know how it makes you feel to see litter on your streets, beaches, and parks. We want to find out how much you collected and how many people are standing up and saying - no more! And we want to tell everyone about it: the media, big businesses and the government, so we can continue to pursue and influence change.

You can do three things on our website:

**1. Sign up to access your personalised dashboard:** Visit [www.keepbritaintidy.org/gbschoolclean](http://www.keepbritaintidy.org/gbschoolclean) to sign up to host a clean-up. Once registered, you can log in to your personalised dashboard where you will be able to add your clean-ups, access exclusive content and resources, and record your results. You'll also receive emails from us about relevant Great Big School Clean news, resources and more to help you with your clean-up (you can unsubscribe at any time).

**1. Add your clean-up:** Visit your dashboard to add your clean-up. You can list as many as you like. Details of your school's clean-up will remain private and only you will be able to see details of your clean-up on the website. Other users will see the name of the clean-up only and will not be able to contact you about joining.

**3. Report your results:** After your clean-up, we'd like all our event hosts to return to their personalised portal and report on the results of the event. We're counting how many people took part, how many minutes they picked for and how many bags of litter were collected.

## Downloadable Great Big School Pack contents:

- Posters that you can download and print to promote your event
- Participation certificates
- Litter bingo
- Assembly PowerPoint and supporting teacher notes



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Follow these simple steps to help you plan, carry out, and evaluate a safe and amazing Great Big School Clean clean-up.

## Step 1: #LitterHeroes

Start by deciding who'll take the lead on organising the clean-up in your school.

While we encourage whole school and wider community involvement, we recommend gathering a group of committed #LitterHeroes to take responsibility for coordinating your clean-up. You could use your existing Eco-Committee, form a new offshoot group or even delegate the responsibility to a whole class or year group.

Your #LitterHeroes will be responsible for:

- Deciding how many clean-ups your school will complete. Will it only be on the 22 March 2019 or will several be organised between 22 March and 23 April 2019?
- Involving as many people as possible in the clean-up
- Reviewing the litter problem in your school and local area
- Deciding when and where your clean-up(s) will take place
- Gathering and looking after the equipment needed for clean-ups
- Informing your school about litter-related issues
- Involving the whole school and wider community in litter actions
- Gathering data to monitor and evaluate the success of your clean-ups.





# Step 2: Revolting Review

## Review

In our Additional Materials section, you'll find a Revolting Review questionnaire that has been specifically designed to examine the litter situation in your school and the surrounding area. It should also allow your pupils to start thinking about the causes of litter and how to tackle them. The questionnaire should be completed by as many pupils as possible. It shouldn't take longer than 15 minutes to fill out.

## Reveal

Once your #LitterHeroes have collated data from the Revolting Review, it's time for them to inform the rest of the school about their findings. This could be done in a whole-school assembly or through each member of the #LitterHeroes feeding back to their class or year group. They might also want to inform parents through newsletters or social media @ecoschools and @keepbritaintidy #GBSchoolClean and #ecoschools

## Repeat

When you've completed your clean-up(s), we recommend you repeat your Revolting Review. Hopefully the results should demonstrate a reduction in litter in and around your school as well as an improved awareness of issues relating to litter. The improvement can be fed back to the whole school and used as evidence for Step 6 of your international Eco-Schools Green Flag Award.



# Step 3: Planning A Clean-up

After your #LitterHeroes have gathered data using the Revolting Review, it's time for them to begin planning their clean-up(s).

## Who?

The first thing your #LitterHeroes need to think about is who's going to be involved. Initially, it might just be the #LitterHeroes completing a clean-up. However, at Eco-Schools, we like to encourage whole school involvement whenever possible. You could set a rota allowing a different class or year group the chance to join in a clean-up throughout the duration of the Great Big School Clean.

Remember our clean-up runs from 22 March - 23 April 2019.

**Great Big School Clean Day of Action**

**Friday 22 March 2019**

Your #LitterHeroes might want to invite parents, carers or other members of the school community to join in. This can also help you provide evidence towards your Eco-Schools Green Flag award Step 5: Informing and Involving.

Our only rule at Eco-Schools is to not sentence children to litter-picking as a form of punishment. We want clean-ups to be fun and rewarding, using the power of positivity to stop people littering!

## When?

**22 March 2019 The Great Big School Clean Day of Action!**

If you can't participate on this day, or you want to organise multiple clean-ups The Great Big School Clean runs from 22 March 2019 to 23rd April 2019.

You might want to organise your clean-ups during playtime, lunchtime, lesson time, before school or after school - it is totally up to you. Remember that if you're planning on involving your wider school community (parents, carers, grandparents) it might be best to plan some of your events outside school hours, maybe even at the weekend!

## Where?

If only the #LitterHeroes are completing the pick, it can take place within the school grounds. If you want to involve the whole school or wider community, your clean-up will need to move further afield - hopefully your school grounds don't have enough litter to keep a whole school busy!

Your Revolting Review should help your #LitterHeroes to identify areas with the most litter, but remember to stay safe by choosing low-risk areas such as your local Green Flag park or Blue Flag beach. You may want to sketch a map of the area you've chosen, clearly labelling the boundaries and any restricted zones. You should also complete a risk assessment and ask for parental permission before any of your clean-up events.



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## What?

You'll need the right equipment to help you successfully and safely complete a clean-up.

For example:

- High-visibility jackets or tabards
- Heavy-duty gloves
- Heavy-duty refuse sacks
- Litter-pickers
- Litter hoops
- Suitable footwear.

If your school doesn't have equipment such as litter-pickers or litter hoops, try contacting your local education authority or the council. They're often able to loan equipment or give advice and support on funding or obtaining your own equipment.

This year, Wilko will be selling a range of equipment to help you get started with your clean-up, including litter-pickers.

You can also download and print our Litter Bingo activity from your Great Big School Clean packs - a fun, easy way to make your clean-up even more engaging and enjoyable.

## Safety

Safety is the most important thing to consider when planning clean-ups. If you're planning to clean-up outside your school grounds you should visit the site and carry out a full risk assessment before you start. Depending on the site you choose, for example council-owned land, you might also need to get permission before the clean-up.

Always choose sites without major hazards such as busy roads, train lines, fast-flowing water or derelict buildings. It's also important to teach children that they should never reach onto a road or into water to pick up litter. Sketch a map of the area before your event and include restricted zones, litter collection areas and first aid points so that everyone involved is really clear about them, this could also be part of a Great British School Clean geography lesson.

As mentioned earlier, it's important to make sure you have the right equipment for your clean-up. High-visibility jackets will allow your pupils to be easily seen and help the group feel like a team, heavy-duty refuse sacks help to store collected rubbish and heavy-duty gloves protect hands. We also recommend you always use litter-pickers and hoops.

Before your clean-up, make sure pupils understand which items are potentially dangerous and **should not** be picked up in any circumstances (broken glass, drug-related litter, biohazards, etc). Teach pupils that if they are in any doubt they should ask a teacher before picking the litter up.

Pupils should also be briefed on hygiene:

- Wear heavy-duty, protective gloves at all times
- Cover any cuts (however minor) with surgical tape or a waterproof plaster
- Do not touch your mouth or eyes while picking litter
- Wash your hands and forearms before eating, drinking or going to the toilet.



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## Step 4: Refuse Resources

Getting involved in a clean-up provides opportunities for contextual learning with links to the National Curriculum. We've included some of the ideas we've had for lessons, but if you have your own ideas please let us know so we can share them with other schools @ecoschools #ecoschools.

- Maths: Collecting data from the litter- pick using tally charts
- Maths: Presenting data from the litter-pick using pictograms, bar charts or pie charts
- English: Writing a balanced argument 'Should litterers be fined?'
- English: Writing a newspaper report about your clean-up
- Science: Investigating everyday materials and why they're used
- Geography: Linking to distribution of natural resources.

## Step 5: Rubbish Recruitment and Trash Talking

By Step 5, you should have a group of #LitterHeroes who are leading the project, you'll have carried out a Revolting Review to collect data, decided on the logistics of your clean-up(s) and thought about how you'll integrate The Great Big School Clean into your school's curriculum. Now it's time for your #LitterHeroes to consider how they can maximise involvement in their planned clean-up(s) by letting everyone know about it.

The best way to involve your whole school is by getting every pupil out there picking litter. If you plan to have the clean-up outside the school grounds, you can involve your wider school community by inviting them.

Your #LitterHeroes can keep the entire school community up-to-date through newsletters, school social media accounts and posting on your Eco-Board.

They should make sure they:

- Explain what a clean-up is and why it's happening
- Explain the findings of the Revolting Review
- Let everybody know when and where the clean-up is happening as well as who's taking part
- Present data on how the clean-up went and how much litter was collected
- Inform everyone about your school's Clean Code (Step 7).

Your whole school, local area and the wildlife living in it will benefit from a clean-up on any scale. But in order for your pupils to properly understanding litter-related problems, we recommend you involve as many people from your school and its community as possible.

**Don't forget to use the materials we have provided in your Great Big School Clean pack! Let your whole school know when and where by completing and printing our posters, host an assembly to tell your school why it is important to get involved.**



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# The Great Big School Clean

It's time for your school to get out there and get cleaning! Have fun, stay safe and be proud of yourselves. Every single piece of litter that is picked up benefits the environment and your local area.

Don't forget to let us know what you are doing on social media #GBSchoolClean and #ecoschools.

## Step 6: Junk Judgement

On Monday 25 April 2019, when the Great Big School Clean is over, it is time for your #LitterHeroes to decide whether you've had a successful Great Big School Clean.

At Keep Britain Tidy and Eco Schools, we try to demonstrate what can be achieved when a whole community takes action against litter. We want to know how it makes you feel to see litter on your streets, your beaches, and parks. We want to know how much you collected and how many people are standing up and saying – no more! And we want to tell everyone about it: the media, big businesses and the government, so we can continue to pursue and influence change.

### Reporting your results

So please, after every Great Big School Clean clean-up, return to your personal dashboard on the Keep Britain Tidy website and tell us:

- The total number of bin bags you collected
- The type of litter (plastic bottles, aluminium cans, general waste)
- The number of people who participated.

### And focusing on our crisp theme:

- Count the total number of crisp packets picked up
- See what proportion of crisp packets collected were salt and vinegar, ready salted, cheese and onion and 'other' flavoured.
- Identify the most littered brand of crisp.

You could also weigh the total amount of litter collected using luggage scales or record the total pieces of litter collected using tally charts or a clicker counter, or simply count the number of bin bags collected.

You can then use the data collected in lots of different ways to support curriculum work in maths.

For example:

- Pupils could create a pictogram to show the number of bags of litter each class collected
- Pupils could record the different types of litter collected and present the data in a pie chart
- Pupils could record where they find the litter and produce a bar chart to show the most littered areas.



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You can complete our simple online survey here:  
<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/EcoSchoolsLitter>

Remember to tell your whole school about your achievements and post your monitoring and evaluation data on your Eco-Board.

## Step 7: Clean Code

Here's our idea:

Now your #LitterHeroes have organised, completed and evaluated the success of their Great Big School Clean, it's time to create a Clean Code for your school that can be incorporated into your Eco-School's existing Eco-Code.

Your school's Clean Code should be a mission statement that reflects your school's attitude towards litter.

**G**irls  
**B**oys and teachers too  
**S**pring clean our grounds and the local  
**C**ommunity too!

We know this is rubbish can you do better? Let us know @ecoschools #ecoschools.





# Revolting Review

Which photo best represents the litter situation in our school?



Have you ever littered?  Yes  No

Would you drop litter?  Yes  No

Do you think it is important not to drop litter?  Yes  No

Have you ever participated in a litter pick?  Yes  No

Would you be willing to try litter picking?  Yes  No

What would you do with litter if you are walking home or to school and can't find a bin?

Drop it on the ground - someone else will pick it up

Keep hold of it and put it in the bin when I reach my destination

Put it somewhere that doesn't look messy like next to a wall or on a bench

Have you seen litter in our school today?  Yes  No

If you answered yes how many pieces?

1-2  2-10  10+

Did you see any litter on your way to school today?  Yes  No

If you answered yes, roughly how many pieces? \_\_\_\_\_

Which of these do you think is the most common item of litter?

Drink bottles and cans

Crisp packets

Plastic bags

Fast food wrappers

Sweet and chocolate wrappers

Coffee cups

Other \_\_\_\_\_

Which area of our school grounds do you think has the most litter?

\_\_\_\_\_

Why do you think it is important to not drop litter?

It looks horrible

It damages the environment

It harms animals

It is unhygienic

It costs lots of money to clean up

All of the above

**Thank you for completing our Revolting Review**



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# Crisps

Number of crisp packets collected:	Tally
------------------------------------	-------

Crisp flavour:	Tally
Ready salted	
Salt and vinegar	
Cheese and onion	
Other	

