

PROJECT GO – LESSON PLAN

Topic: Sorting Waste (Years P–3)

Why sorting waste into the correct bin matters



Overview

Project GO is a sustainability education program that helps students understand waste, recycling, and caring for the environment through storytelling, characters, and hands-on activities.

This lesson builds on the Project GO characters and themes to help students understand that **sorting waste into the correct bin is super easy and important**.

Students will practise identifying the word **SORTING** and connect it to the real-world action of putting waste in the correct bin.

This lesson is designed to work **directly with the Project GO P–3 Worksheet 2** and can be delivered as a stand-alone classroom activity or alongside other Project GO digital resources.

Objective

This lesson aims to help students:

- Understand what **sorting waste** means
- Recognise that waste goes into **different bins**
- Learn that sorting waste helps the environment

Through discussion and a word scramble activity, students reinforce the key message that **sorting waste into the correct bin is easy and important**.

Materials

- Whiteboard or interactive screen
- **PROJECT GO P–3 Worksheet 2: “Barry Reef’s Scramble”** (one per student)
- Whiteboard markers
- Pencils or markers

Lesson plan

1. Review & Introduction (10 minutes)

Begin with a whole-class discussion.

Ask students:

- What is **waste**?
- What do we do when we finish using something?
- Do we put all waste in the same bin?

Explain that:

- Waste is **anything we’ve finished using**
- Not all waste goes in the same bin
- **Sorting** means putting waste into the correct bin

Write the word **SORTING** on the board and say it together as a class.

2. Explore the Idea of Sorting (10 minutes)

Use leading questions to guide discussion:

- What happens if we put waste in the wrong bin?
- Is sorting waste hard or easy?
- Why do you think sorting waste is important?

Reinforce that:

- Sorting helps recycling and composting work properly
- Sorting helps protect the environment
- Everyone can help by sorting waste at home and at school

Explain that students are now going to practise the word **SORTING** using a Project GO activity.

3. Activity – Barry Reef’s Scramble (20 minutes)

Distribute the **Project GO P–3 Worksheet 2** to each student.

Explain the task clearly:

- Students will **unscramble the letters**
- The letters spell a very important word
- The numbers help them if they get stuck

Support students as they complete the worksheet:

- Encourage sounding out letters
- Allow students to work independently or with a partner
- Circulate and assist where needed

Once completed, reveal the answer together:

SORTING

Celebrate success and repeat the word aloud as a class.

“SORTING waste into the correct bin is super easy and important!”

4. Reflect & Connect (10 minutes)

Discuss as a class:

- What does sorting mean?
- What bins do we use at school?
- How can you help sort waste at home?

Optional extension:

- Ask students to draw or describe one item and say which bin it goes into
- Invite students to share one thing they will sort correctly today

Australian Curriculum (ACiQ v9) Connections

Science

- Science understanding – Biological sciences
- Science as a human endeavour – Use and influence of science

HASS

- Knowledge and understanding – Geography
- Skills – Concluding and decision-making

General Capabilities

- Literacy
- Critical and Creative Thinking
- Personal and Social Capability

Cross-Curriculum Priority

- Sustainability

Where to Find More Additional Project GO digital stories, activities, and resources are available for students, teachers, and families to continue learning at:

PROJECT-GO.COM.AU