



## Lydia - Waste sorting systems

### What was your goal and what did you achieve?

I worked with the Environmental Group at my school, which I'm a part of. We wanted to reduce the amount of rubbish that was going into landfill that didn't necessarily have to go there. We did have to do some research to make sure that we were putting together the right bins and we were telling people that the right stuff goes in the right bin so we didn't tell them to put something into landfill that could go into co-mingled, for example. We worked with this wonderful lady who came in from out of school to teach us about waste sorting called Nikki.

I didn't build the bins myself but I helped design them, because the school handyman Colin built them for us, and then we painted them and we've also made miniature versions for the classrooms as well so that it's not just on the outside. They're not quite finished yet but they're almost done. We've gone around to the classes and told them how it works, and we're going to go around to the younger classes again because some of them still don't understand it because they're only Year 1 and Year 2.

### Next steps?

We have three bins currently and they still need improving and they still need completing, and then I think they should last a couple of years without having to be re-done.

### Your biggest success so far?

The fact that they're working so well and that kids are actually using them well.

### Your advice to other students?

Do your research and don't try and do something like this by yourself because you will struggle and it probably won't work. Make sure you're working with people who are interested in it and have the same sorts of ideas and mindset as you.

### What did you enjoy most?

Probably the fact that I can see that it's making a change at our school and also the fact that I got to work with the kids at my school who had the same sort of mindset and that was really fun because we got to work out of class

*This case study was transcribed from an interview. These are Lydia's words and opinions.*



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