

Food packaging

Introduction



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- Most food in shops and supermarkets is packaged
- Most packaging is thrown away after we use the food
- Some packaging is recycled but some becomes landfill
- What foods can you see here?



Food packaging and plastic waste

Main Presentation

Plastic waste causes problems in the oceans...



...and on land



The purposes of food packaging

The purposes of food packaging are:

- To keep food fresh
- To reduce microbes
- To make food look attractive
- To protect food from damage during transport



Life before plastic: paper, glass and tins



Plastic packaging...



...and more plastic packaging



Benefits of food packaging

Well-packaged food:

- Has fewer microbes

And so:

- Lasts longer
- Is easy to read
- Is more hygienic
- Is less likely to be wasted



Reducing waste: The 'Six Rs'

We can reduce waste using the 'Six Rs':

- Rethink** — do things differently
- Refuse** — don't use or buy something
- Reduce** — use less
- Reuse** — use again
- Recycle** — turn waste back into useful things
- Repair** — mend instead of throwing away

Examples of the 'Six Rs' in action

We can:

- **Reduce** waste by taking **reusable** shopping bags
- **Rethink** how we shop, choosing places that use **recyclable** packaging
- **Refuse** extra unnecessary packaging
- **Repair** something that is damaged instead of buying a new one

What would you do?

Buy a salad with a plastic box and a plastic fork...



...or take a reusable salad box to a salad bar and use a metal fork?