

Lesson: Journal for a Day**Grade:** 1**Objectives:**

Students will:

- Collect, sort and organize data on discarded items they have observed
- Learn how to keep a journal of their findings
- Use pictures, words and phrases to describe their data
- Interpret data with up to 3 categories & compare which has more or less

Materials: paper, pencils, crayons, cardboard

Presentation: Explain what a journal is (a way to keep track of things). Since we're learning about the environment and how to take care of it, we'll be keeping a journal of all the items that we find that are thrown away. We'll take a walk around the school and playground, and as we find something, we'll enter it in our journals, by writing a word or phrase for it and drawing a picture of it. Then, we'll bring our journals home and add to them before bringing them back the next day.

Directions:

1. Show students how to put paper on top of cardboard to have a better writing surface.
2. Instruct students to look for anything thrown away (i.e. bits of paper, pop cans, wrappers, banana peels, etc.), and record it in their journal with a word and picture.
3. Have them take home the journal and collect more data after school, and bring it back the next morning.
4. Have 3 categories written on board or flip chart: paper; metal or plastic; food.
5. Divide the class into small groups, and have kids count how many items from each category.
6. Teacher then records the data on the board. Have students interpret the data, by observing which category has the most and the least.

Time: 60-80 minutes