

Name: _____

Date: _____

Trash Talkin' Activity – Let's Talk Trash Worksheet

I. Prediction

I predict that our class generated _____ of trash this week.

I think _____% of it will be reusable, _____% of it will be recyclable, and _____% of it will be non-recyclable.

Prediction:

Item	MASS OF TRASH			Total
	Re-usable	Recyclable	Non-recyclable	
Food				
Paper				
Plastic				
Metal				
Glass				
Misc.				
Total				

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II. Analysis

How much total garbage did your class create this week? _____

Calculate the percents in each category and record them in the table below.

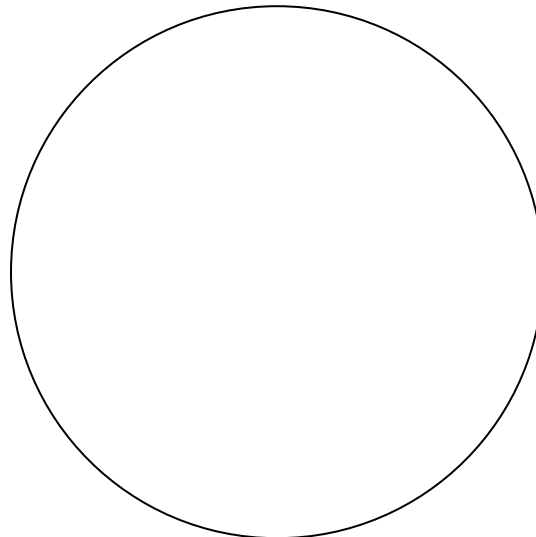
Example

Your class produced 19 pounds of trash this week. Of this, 2.5 pounds was re-useable paper.

$$2.5 \div 19 \times 100 = 13.2\% \text{ of the trash was re-useable paper.}$$

Item	PERCENT OF TOTAL MASS			Total
	Re-usable	Recyclable	Non-recyclable	
Food				
Paper				
Plastic				
Metal				
Glass				
Misc.				
Total				100%

Create a pie chart of these results.



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III. Discussion Questions

1. Which of the categories has the most re-useable items (by mass)? _____

Why do you think this is? _____

2. Which of the categories has the most recyclable items (by mass)? _____

Why do you think this is? _____

3. Which of the categories has the most non-recyclable items (by mass)? _____

Why do you think this is? _____

4. Was your prediction for the total amount of trash close to correct? _____

Are you surprised by how much trash your class generated? Explain why or why not.

5. How many classes of students are there in your school? _____

How much trash do the classrooms in your school generate every week? _____

(Assume all the classes generate about as much trash as yours does and show your work below.)

