Unit: What are we throwing away?

In this 5-part series students will track the energy and resources that go into getting food to their plates. Problem solving to design solutions and take action, students will minimize the impact food waste has on people and the climate.

8 hours total  •  30-90 minutes per lesson  •  Grades 4th - 6th

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= Teacher leads, RE Sources supports  = RE Sources leads, Teacher supports  Pink = NGSS standards met

RE Sources can provide...

Food Waste 101
Lesson 1: What is “Away” anyway?
Activity 1: Students use investigative skills to assess their school’s waste

Deeper dive: how food waste impacts people and the environment
NGSS: 5-LS2-1, 5-ESS3-1
Lesson 2: Where does our food come from?
Lesson 3: What are the unseen resources that go into making a meal?
Lesson 4: What does our waste have to do with climate change and what are some solutions?
Optional Social Justice Lesson: How does our food waste impact people?

Optional: Waste audit
Activity 2: Cafeteria waste audit. Students literally dig deeper and perform a cafeteria waste audit

Students find solutions
NGSS: 3-5-ETS1-1
Activity 3: After analyzing data, students choose a project and create an action plan

Students take action!
NGSS: 3-5-ETS1-1
Activity 5: Project implementation
Activity 6: Share successes, challenges, and debrief

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