

# TOGETHER FOR OUR MOANA - WE'RE SHAPING OUR FUTURE

INTEGRATED MATHS AND LITERACY LEARNINGS

## MATHS

### Lunchbox Maths - Problem Solving



This is from Core Lesson 3 - Kaitiakitanga lesson plan

## TASK

In a group **estimate** how many pieces of plastic you think your school throws out each year.

### Answer:

We think our school throws away this many pieces of plastic each year:



## NOW FIGURE IT OUT

**Follow these steps:**

1. **Count** how many plastic pieces you throw away in one day (count up the plastic that is in your lunch box).
2. In a group, **add** all your individual totals together **then divide** by number of people in the group **to get an average**.

**Answer:** - Average number of pieces of plastic per person each day:

3. **Multiply** by the number of students in the school.  
*How many students in our school?*

What is the average amount of plastic each day at our school?

**Answer:**

4. **Multiply** by number of school days in a year. We have 190 school days each year.

**Answer:** Number of pieces of plastic thrown out by our school each year.

5. **Check** - How close was your estimate?

**EXTRA THINKING**

**WRITE** a summary of what you have found out:

- Title
- Why is it important to find out about plastic waste?
- What have you found out?
- What next? - What other details could you look into? (types of plastic, are some areas worse than others, are different days worse than others?)  
What could you use this data for?

**THINK** - Has this changed your view on the plastic pollution problem at your school? Could you look beyond school? Are there any areas that are especially polluted? What local areas are kept clean?

**IDEAS** - How can we improve? What can you do?

**INVESTIGATE** - Find the average amount of plastic in lunchboxes each week in your class. Are people bringing less plastic? What is helping? What makes it difficult?