

# Dustbin Collectors

Movement Objectives

Shapes

**‘Rubbish’  
shapes**

Relationships

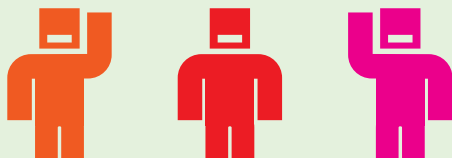
Action / reaction of lorries  
and collectors

Actions

Dustbin gestures and actions

## Warm up

How do robots move?



Ask the children to **demonstrate robotic hands, heads, feet, arms, legs and tummies**. Get them to try out some ideas around the room. Add in some actions that the children have to perform robotically such as...

- **Waving**
- **Sitting / standing**
- **Drinking**
- **Dancing**
- **Stretching (last activity)**

Das Spiegel - The Chemical Brothers



PEOPLE THAT HELP US

# 'Rubbish!'

**Discuss the activities that dustbin collectors have to do and any special clothing they might need to wear** (such as a high-vis jacket and gloves). Get 'dressed' in the items that the children have mentioned.

- Ask the children for examples of 'rubbish' EG banana skin, egg shell, crisp packet
- Create still shapes of these suggestions – try out one at a time
- Get them to focus on the details of their movement – which parts of their crisp packet are crinkled, where are the cracks in the egg shell?

**Put the children into two groups.** Ask **group 1 to choose any of the 'rubbish' shapes already discussed** and demonstrate them in a space. Get **group 2 to guess what items of rubbish group 1 have made.** Then ask group 2 to sort through the rubbish as dustbin collectors – can they put them into different groups for recycling, composting and general waste? **Swap over.**

Stomp House - Stomp



## Dustbin Lorries

**On their own, ask the children to travel like dustbin lorries** – think about the shape and size of the machine and the speed at which it travels. Then ask them to become the backs of the lorries – hole for the waste to enter, levers, pulleys, buttons.  
Lorry actions

- Forwards – walk forwards slowly and then stop. Repeat and number of times
- Reverse – look behind, flash a hand (warning light) and 'beep' to let people know
- Load – lift the wheelie bins up and empty them into the lorry

**In pairs, one child is the lorry, the other the dustbin collector.** Ask them to connect the lorry actions with the dustbin collector...

- Forwards – the lorry moves forwards and stops. The collector follows the lorry and gets the next bin

- Load – the dustbin collector places the wheelie bins onto the lorry, presses the ‘button’ (the children can decide where this is) for the lorry to empty the bins
- Reverse – the dustbin collector beckons and directs the lorry (into a narrow street? Down a cul-de-sac? Turning around in a road?)
- Repeat a number of times to establish a pattern
- Swap over so both children complete both roles

# Choreography

**Can the children make a huge pile of waste together?** Make a ‘rubbish’ shape (not something that can be recycled or composted). **Link up with a partner – squash together to make a mini-landfill.** Keep making the groups bigger until all the children are linked together in one big landfill pile (make sure the children are linked safely together!).

# Performance Opportunity

**Discuss the different activities above – rubbish, collection and landfills.** Which order do these need to go into? Divide the class into 3 – one group for each activity. **Ask the children to perform the dustbin collector’s dance in the correct order.**

# Appreciation

**Give feedback to the children – who was effective at**

- Demonstrating clear, still rubbish shapes
- Performing with strong mechanical movements
- Working with their partner



## Cool Down ↓

**Create a shape based on the most favourite piece of rubbish from the session.** Hold it really still. Imagine it is being crumpled up into a really small ball. Then imagine it is being opened out flat – have a good stretch along the floor. Remove the dustbin collector's clothes and sit in a space.

## Further Development

**Put the class into 3 groups.** Ask **group 1 to create a huge dustbin lorry** as a group. **Group 2 are the rubbish**, so they can create a shape from earlier in the session. **Group 3 are the bin collectors** – they need to collect the rubbish in a safe way and transport it into to lorry carefully. **Swap over so that all children have a go at the 3 different roles.**

**Create a machinery dance based on actions that might happen in a recycling plant** – objects being squashed, chopped, melted, moulded etc. Choose 4-6 actions and put them in an order and rehearse. **Add into the dustbin collector's dance.**