

Did you know?



The Great British Spring Clean – moved to September

Clearing out and cleaning up are usually part of spring's agenda – but this year the Spring Clean is the Autumn Clean!

Cleaning up and sorting out are part of our routine at the beginning of the year – we want to make our house and garden

ready for the year ahead. And it's not just our own house that needs some attention – it's also the environment outside that requires a clean up. That's why the *Keep Britain Tidy* group has organized *The Great British Clean* – which due to the current situation has become *The Great British September Clean*.

Last year more than half a million people were involved, making it the country's biggest ever mass-action environmental campaign. This year, more than 680,000 have volunteered to help the clean-up in the UK during 11-27 September. They will be picking up litter in parks, on beaches, by the road side and in woodland. And they are doing it for a good reason: it helps wildlife (many animals are injured by dropped litter) it helps marine life (more than 80% of litter dropped inland ends up in our oceans), it helps the environment and finally it helps your sense of well-being. So there are lots of positive reasons to get involved.

Founded over sixty-five years ago, the *Keep Britain Tidy* group – the organizer of *The Great British September Clean* - has four main objectives: to cut litter, end waste, improve public places and educate future generations. It has worked tirelessly to change attitudes to litter and the environment through publicity campaigns – some employing well-known UK faces, such as the cast of *Coronation Street*, the Bee Gees, the Wombles, Richard Branson, and the Swedish stars, Abba.

If you think this is something that only affects Britain, then think again. The European Union hosts its own clean-up day on 19 and 20 September and you can find plenty of information on the website below. What about encouraging your class to take part in a clean-up activity? As the publicity says: Clean-ups are a unique opportunity to raise public awareness on the issue and to help change people's behaviour. They could also be a way of learning more English!

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Did you know?

If you would like to know more about *Let's clean-up Europe!* Then click here: https://www.ewwr.eu/en/take_part/lets-clean-up-europe

If you would like to know more about *The Great British September Clean*, then click here: <https://www.keepbritaintidy.org/get-involved/support-our-campaigns/great-british-spring-clean>

If you would like to use **Clean-up week** in your lesson, then we have provided you with two activities at A2 level. You'll find them in the following **Teacher's notes** and on the **Worksheets**.

Teacher's notes

Litter! (Level A2 and above, 10+ minutes)

- Make a copy of **Worksheet 1**, one for each student. If you are doing this as an online exercise, then make the **Worksheet** accessible to each student before the lesson (by email, for example).
- On the board (or shared whiteboard, if online) write *litter* and ask students if they know what this is. (*Abfall*)
- Ask students to open the first exercise **Litter!** and match the pictures to the phrases. Check answers together. Key: 1c, 2f, 3a, 4e, 5d, 6b
- Ask students to move on to the second part of this activity.
- If possible, students should check their answers with a partner. Check answers together in class. Key: (g) cigarette butts (h) fast-food packaging (i) drinks cans (j) sweet wrappers (k) apple cores (l) litter bin
- In pairs or the whole class together, students should now discuss the questions below the text.

Tidy up! (Level A2 and above, 10+ minutes)

- Make a copy of **Worksheet 2**, one for each student. If you are doing this as an online exercise, then make the **Worksheet** accessible to each student before the lesson (by email, for example).
- On the board (or shared whiteboard, if online) write *toothpaste* and ask students in which room you usually find it. (bathroom)
- Tell students they need to tidy up their homes and put things back in the correct room.
- Tell students to **Tidy up!** by putting the things in the correct room.
- If possible, students should check their answers with a partner. Check answers together in class. Key:
Bathroom: bath towel, toothbrush, toilet paper
Kitchen: wooden spoon, tea towel, dish cloth
Living room: cushion, TV remote control, house plant
Bedroom: alarm clock, pillow, duvet cover
- Ask students to find more items for the rooms and check together.
- Ask students whether they like tidying up or cleaning. What is their (least) favourite household task?

Litter!

Match the words to the correct picture.

1 apple cores | 2 cigarette butts | 3 drinks cans | 4 fast-food packaging
packaging | 5 litter bin | 6 sweet wrappers

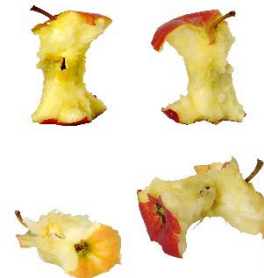
a



b



c



d



e



f



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Complete this short text about litter using the phrases from the exercise above.

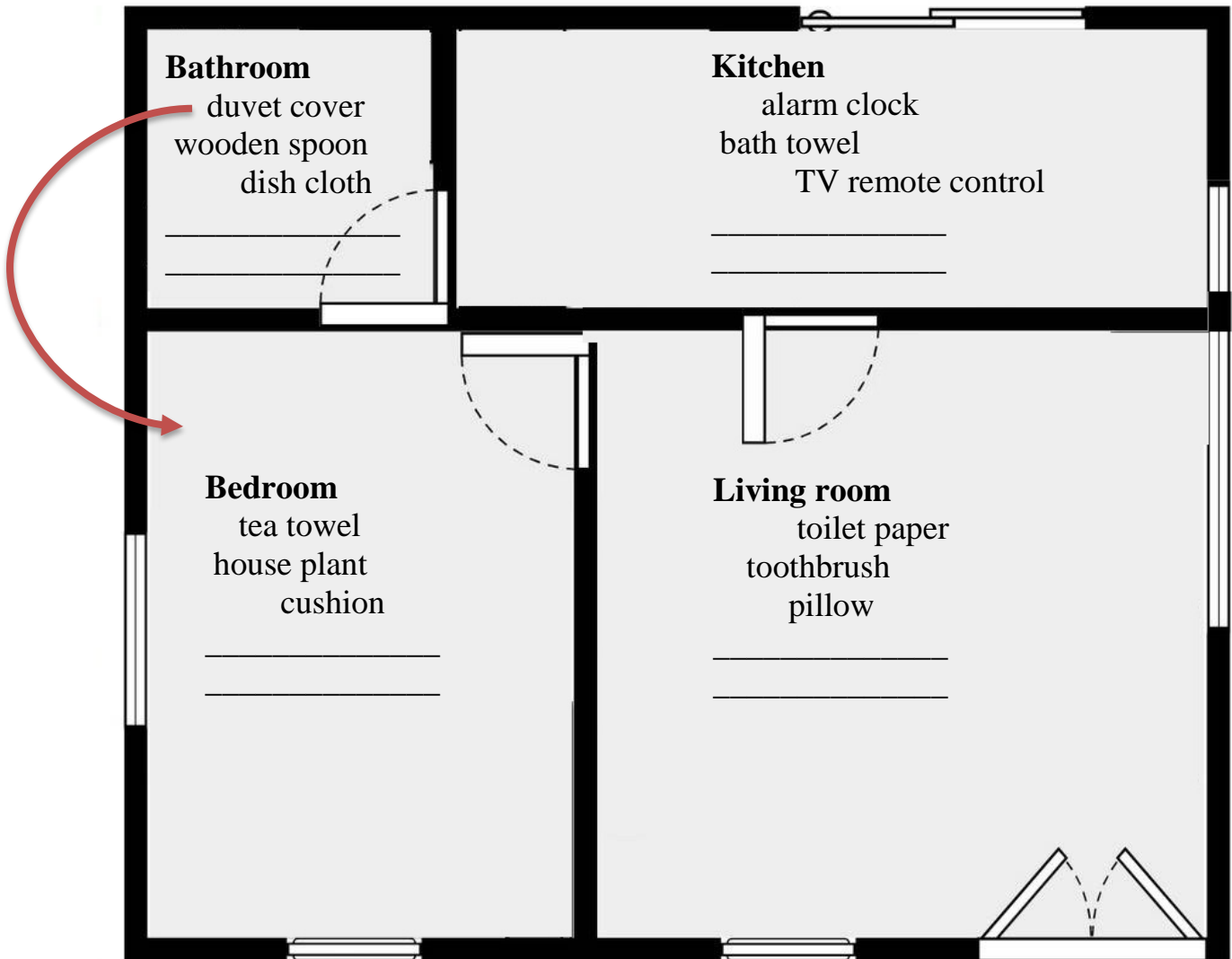
More than two million pieces of litter are dropped in the UK every day. People who smoke often drop (g) _____ on the floor. After eating a burger or chips, many people throw the (h) _____ on the ground. You drink a lemonade or a beer and forget the (i) _____. Chocolate and lollipops are delicious but often people forget about the (j) _____. Even eating fruit can be a problem because people leave (k) _____ on the grass. All of these things should be put in the (l) _____.

Is litter a problem near your house?

Would you like to take part in a clean up? Why? Why not?

Tidy up!

Your house is untidy and things are in the wrong rooms. Put these items in the correct room.



Can you add two more things to each room?