

Quiz: What Do You Know About Waste?

Guess the Year?

Solid waste has been a problem for centuries. What do you think is the approximate date of these events in the history of solid waste management? Write your guesses on your paper. We'll take a few minutes for you to record your answers.

- _____ The first city dump opened
- _____ Pigs were used to get rid of garbage
- _____ Landfills became popular
- _____ The first solid waste management laws were passed
- _____ A garbage barge circled Long Island with no place to unload

How Many Years to Disappear?

When solid waste is not recycled, it often goes to a landfill. When solid waste does end up in a landfill, how many years does it remain before it disappears?

Read through the list of items on the slide. For each item, write down how many years you think it will take for it to completely disintegrate.

- _____ Disposable diaper
- _____ Cotton sock
- _____ Styrofoam cup
- _____ Glass bottle
- _____ Leather belt
- _____ Wooden block
- _____ Banana peel
- _____ Cardboard box
- _____ Plastic bottle
- _____ Aluminum can

