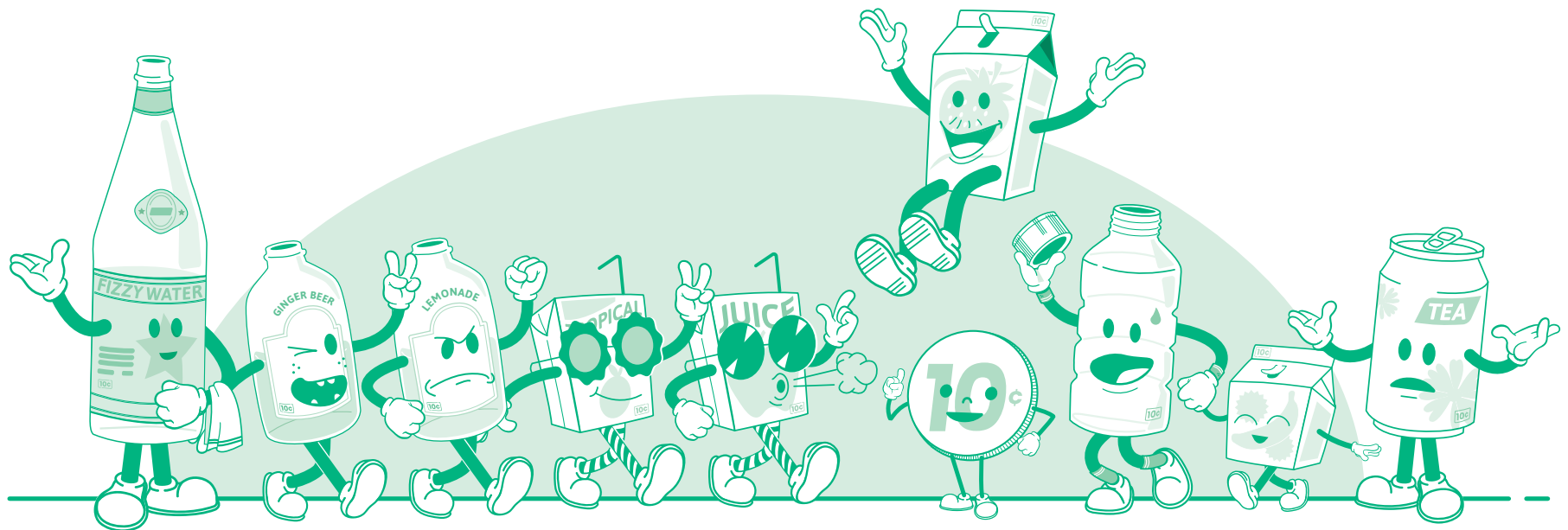
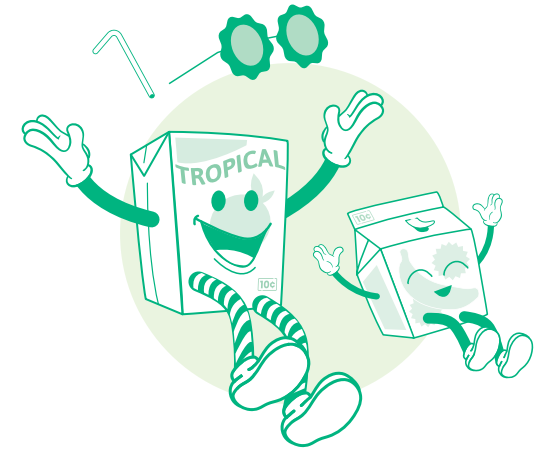


CONTAINERS FOR CHANGE WA EDUCATION GUIDE





CONGRATULATIONS ON BECOMING A CONTAINERS FOR CHANGE SCHOOL

We are thrilled you are joining the hundreds of WA schools who have given millions of 10¢ drink containers another life, while raising valuable funds for their community.

This guide will support your school in making Containers for Change an everyday activity, whether that be on the school grounds, at the canteen, in the classroom, in student's homes, and even in your local community.

With Containers for Change your school can:

- Increase its sustainability efforts.
- Teach students about waste, recycling, the circular economy, and other topics across the curriculum.
- Raise funds for the school or a good cause.
- Encourage behaviour change habits that leads to a better future.
- Reduce litter in your school and community.
- Develop student leadership skills.

This guide was developed with support from WasteSorted Schools, a program of the Waste Authority. WasteSorted Schools provide support to schools across Western Australia to promote better waste management practices and behaviours, with a focus on waste avoidance and resource recovery.

This guide is based on a best practice approach to changing waste behaviours as outlined in the *WasteSorted Schools Guide* and the Department of Education's *Caring for Country Together Sustainability Framework*.

We encourage you to consider Containers for Change as part of your school's broader waste strategy.

For more information on how to improve your school's overall waste streams and become a more sustainable school, we recommend checking out the [WasteSorted Schools guide](#) and [website](#).



Scan the QR code or visit bit.ly/wssguide.

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Sign up for e-news, follow us on socials, and share your stories.

WHAT IS CONTAINERS FOR CHANGE?

What we do

Each year, Western Australians buy more than 1.4 billion recyclable 10¢ containers. Sadly, hundreds of millions end up as litter or in general waste.

Containers for Change targets the beverage containers that are commonly littered. This includes plastic and glass bottles, drink cartons, and drink cans.

Together we can return these 10¢ containers to give them another life and help our community while doing it.

Containers living on, again and again

When you return your 10¢ containers with us, you're part of a bigger cycle — where everybody wins.

10¢ containers are saved from general waste so they can live another life, jobs are created, and money goes back into the pockets of everyday Western Australians.

Your 10¢ containers reinvented

Containers for Change works with accredited recyclers to ensure your 10¢ containers are recycled, so they can live another life.

Once you've returned your 10¢ containers, we sort them into their different material types. They're then transported to a processing facility so they can be prepared for recycling.

Accredited recyclers purchase our recycled material and renew them as new containers or other products.



Images (top - bottom): A Containers for Change exchange point attached to a public general waste bin; A family using a Drop & Go bin to return their collected 10¢ containers.



OUR STORY SO FAR

Refund Points

WA is home to one of the most accessible container deposit schemes in Australia. With hundreds of refund points across the State, with almost half in regional areas, your local Containers for Change refund point may be closer than you think.

Creating more WA jobs

Containers for Change has created over 800 new jobs right here in WA, including more than 200 for people living with a disability or who were long-term unemployed, and more than 70 for Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander peoples.

WA Trailblazers

As of December 2023, WA had saved over 2.8 billion 10c containers from landfill. That's \$280 million in 10c container refunds, back into our communities, and enough to wrap around the earth more than 12.5 times.

Collecting for a cause

To date, more than \$10 million has been donated to schools, charities, and community groups by everyday Western Australians through Containers for Change.

Images (top - bottom): A Containers for Change refund point operator receiving 10c containers; Employees at the MR Refund refund point depot in Dunsborough; Students from Bremer Bay Primary School with 10c containers contributing to school P&C fundraising.

WASTE AND THE CIRCULAR ECONOMY

It's not just about 10¢ containers

Containers for Change is just one of many initiatives underway in WA to reduce the instances and impacts of unnecessary waste, while protecting both environmental and human health for future generations.

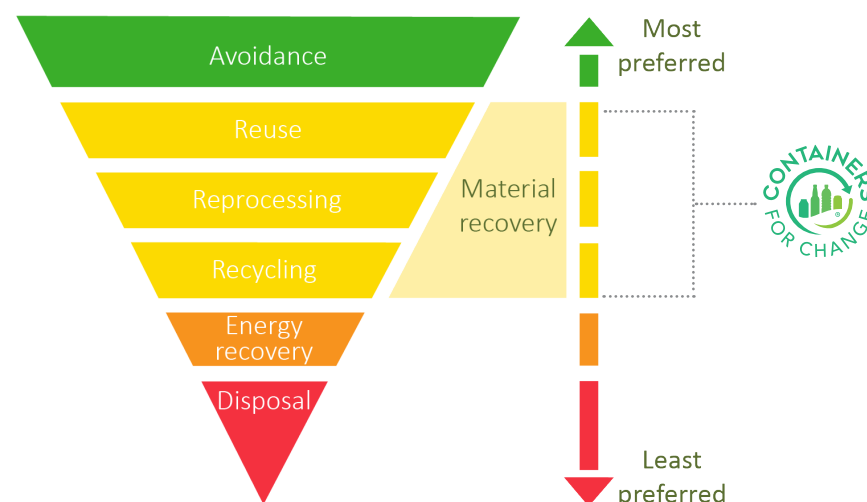
The Government of Western Australia and the Waste Authority are improving the sustainability of WA waste, with the delivery of the *Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Strategy 2030*. The strategy encourages Western Australians to do their part to support a sustainable, low-waste, circular economy in Western Australia, with a focus on initiatives across three core objectives — avoid, recover and protect.



Infographic courtesy of the Waste Authority.

Waste hierarchy

The WA Government approach applies the principles of the waste hierarchy. This hierarchy ranks waste management options in order of their general environmental desirability:



Infographic courtesy of the Waste Authority.

The most preferred option is to avoid generating waste in the first place. However, when waste cannot be avoided, it is important to consider what can be reused, re-purposed, or recycled — and that's where Containers for Change comes in.

The least preferred option is general waste disposal where it may take hundreds (if not thousands) of years to breakdown, and cause significant environmental, social, and economic impacts.

INFRASTRUCTURE

GETTING SET UP TO COLLECT 10¢ DRINK CONTAINERS

Your school can be part of the change.

Across WA, school canteens and lunch boxes are packed with 10¢ containers. You can do your bit by giving these containers another life, while earning funds for your school or community.

Over 750 WA schools are already registered with Containers for Change and your school or P&C may be too. We recommend talking to your school community, to find out if you're already involved and ask how you can help.

NOT ALREADY INVOLVED? NO WORRIES!

Getting started with Containers for Change is easy.

Download the fundraising toolkit

Full of top tips, handy resources, and stories of success.

Check out the Containers for Change website

Your one-stop shop to sign up for a member number, find your nearest refund point, access resources, and learn how others are using Containers for Change to raise funds and help the environment.

Sign up for a member number

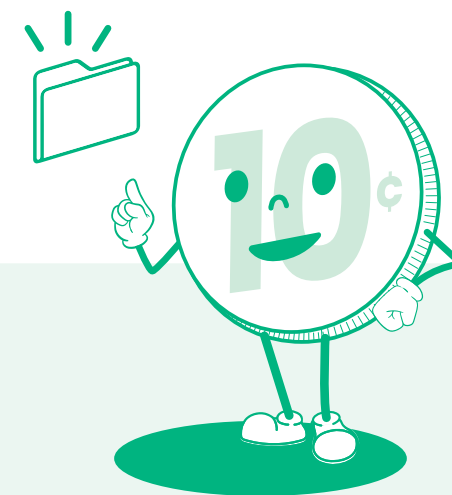
Get set up to receive refunds and access the member portal features.

Get to know your local refund point

Use the refund point locator function on our website to find your local refund point depot. They may offer bins, a collection service and other support.

Decide your collection approach

Collect at school, set up a donation point, or receive virtual donations. Your approach will inform your infrastructure needs including how many and what type of bins you require. But don't worry — if your refund point doesn't supply bins, you can use anything to collect 10¢ containers. The important thing is to get started!



HANDY HINT

The Fundraising Toolkit and heaps of other great resources are available for free in our fundraising folder - there are even editable posters and flyers so you can include your school name and brand new member number to start receiving 10¢ container donations straight to your account.

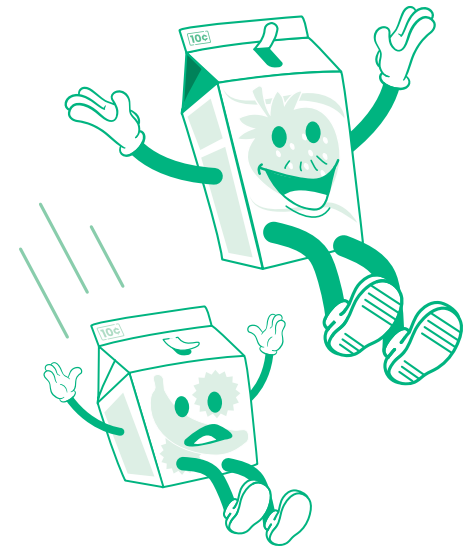


To access our fundraising folder, scan the QR code or visit c4change.info/fundraisingedguide

PERFECT YOUR BIN GAME!

Depending on how you decide to collect your 10¢ containers, you may have different bin and infrastructure needs.

In addition to collecting containers from school waste streams, you may decide to have a donation bin to accept donations at your school. No matter how you decide to collect, you will need to think about where your bins will be placed, how you will identify your bins with appropriate signage, and who will empty and monitor your bins.



Here are our top tips to perfect your bin game:

1. Set up waste stations

As a general rule, always place a Containers for Change bin directly beside your general waste and recycling bins. Students are more likely to make the right choice when bins are easy to access. Try not to isolate the bins in any area or they tend to attract other general waste items.

2. Consider drink consumption areas

Having bins by your canteen is great, but make sure you have bins in other areas where food and drink is consumed, including undercover areas and the staff room.

3. Ensure bins are easy to identify

With many waste streams occurring within schools, signage is important to support correct behaviour at the point of disposal. The Containers for Change brand is now widely recognised — use it to your advantage and ensure your bins are gleaming green and white!

4. Plan an approach to bin monitoring and collection

It will take some trial and error to work out the best locations for your bins and how often they need to be emptied. In the early days check how fast your bins are filling up, and adjust your plans accordingly.

5. Educate your whole school community

Education is key — especially when your program is new!

Help your community to adopt positive waste disposal behaviours by sharing information widely through assemblies, newsletters, and social media.

Bin monitors can also help to educate students as they approach the new bins.

BINS, BINS, AND MORE BINS

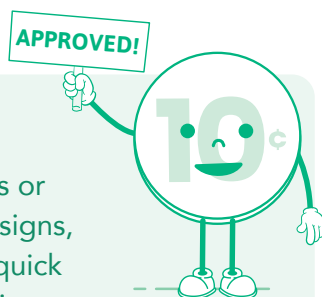
Refund point supplied bins

If your refund point is able to supply and collect your bins — great! Consider how many you may need and where they will be located. Your refund point should be able to guide you on this, but you will need to ensure correct placement and use of the bins between collections. We recommended using a rubbish picker and gloves when monitoring bins, and considering how small quantities of containers from classrooms and other areas can be tipped into larger bins safely.

DON'T FORGET

If you do use our logos or brand on your own designs, you will need to do a quick check with our marketing team before you go to print or click post!

Email us at marketing@warrml.com.au for approval.



Purchasing your own bins

Buying your own bin infrastructure? You will need to consider suitable sized bins for different areas and use. You may wish to purchase smaller bins for classroom areas, with larger bins placed in lunchtime and canteen areas. Make sure your bins can be easily transported to the refund point or tipped into collection bags for transporting. As with supplied bins, you will need to develop a plan to monitor your bins, and as your bins won't have any signage.

Bin signage

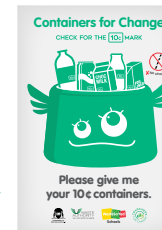
It's important that all bins and waste streams are easily identified, with clear and consistent signage. To reduce contamination and improve waste disposal behaviours, we recommend the WasteSorted Schools poster range — there is even a Containers for Change poster! Alternatively, you may wish to have students make your bin signage. We recommend incorporating the strength of the Containers for Change brand. Visit the WA Schools Resource folder for a range of assets.

Donation points

If you have the space, you can choose to have a donation point at your school. This lets people drop their 10¢ containers off straight to you, so you can return them and collect the refund for your group. If you decide to become a donation point, you'll need to set up a cage, bins, or other infrastructure where people can safely drop off their 10¢ containers for your cause. If the area is not attended outside of business hours, arrange for a lockable cage or bins and investigate any insurance or public liability issues. Once full, you can return your 10¢ containers to your local refund point or ask them if they can assist with collection (they may charge a small fee).



Check out the WasteSorted Schools Poster range using the QR code, or visit c4change.info/ws-resources



GET 10¢ CONTAINER SAVVY

It's easy to check for the 10¢ mark but making sure you and your team know which 10¢ containers are accepted will help you make the most of your collecting efforts.

Most aluminium, glass, plastic, steel, and liquid paperboard drink containers that are 150ml to 3L are accepted.

This includes:



Most single-serve water and fizzy drink containers up to, and including, 3L.



Most single-serve alcohol containers, like beer bottles and pre-mixed spirits.



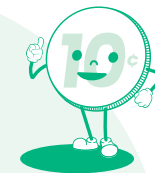
Flavoured milk containers that are 150ml to 999ml.



Coconut water, pure fruit, or vegetable juice containers that are 150ml to 999ml.

No 10¢ mark? No worries!

While we may not accept a container, you can still do the right thing by disposing of it into a residential recycling bin. Check out wastesorted.wa.gov.au for more information about what's eligible to put in your household recycling bin.



HANDY HINT

Get the Containers for Change WA app and use our barcode eligibility scanner to check which drink containers are accepted. This can be a fun activity for students – more on this on page 18.



Make sure you take off the lids — we recycle those too, just separately.



Image: High school students from Frederick Irwin Anglican School.

SAFETY FIRST, CONTAINER SAVERS

By educating your team, students, and supporters, you can make sure your 10¢ container collecting is safe, fun, and efficient.

We want to make sure you stay safe

When collecting 10¢ containers, make sure you and your team identify hazards, assess the risk, and put controls in place to keep your team, students, and community safe. Some common hazards that may be present when collecting are:

- Collecting 10¢ containers, particularly glass, can be noisy business.
- When moving large quantities of 10¢ containers, bins and bags may be heavy.
- Sometimes people may have placed sharp or unknown objects inside their 10¢ containers.

Here are some safety tips to help prevent hazards from becoming an issue:

- Wear protective clothing such as enclosed shoes, long-sleeved tops, and pants. If appropriate, wear PPE (Personal Protection Equipment) such as gloves and hearing and eye protection.
- Take care and be mindful when handling 10¢ containers. Also be sure to check your organisation's insurance, risk and safety protocols.
- Ask your collectors and supporters to remove all lids (these can be recycled too — just separately) and empty the contents of 10¢ containers before donating them.

EDUCATION

CONTAINERS FOR CHANGE IN THE CLASSROOM

Containers for Change can teach students about recycling, waste, sustainability, and the circular economy.

Whether your school is actively collecting 10¢ containers or not, you can still utilise Containers for Change to get young people thinking about the importance of general waste avoidance and strategies for a more sustainable future.

CLASSROOM ACTIVITIES

We recommend considering classroom learning in the following way:



1. Research and enquiry

Capture students' interest in Containers for Change by exploring what kinds of drink containers can be recycled through the program, what they are turned into and how litter and waste impact the environment.



2. Containers for Change at your school

Get your students thinking about your school's waste streams and how they are being disposed of. Are there 10¢ containers that could be diverted from general waste by implementing a Containers for Change program?

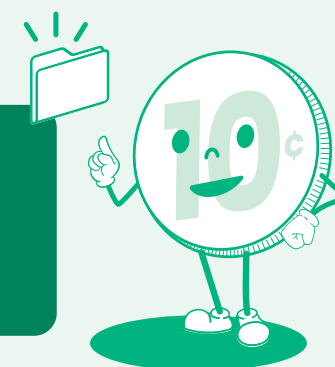


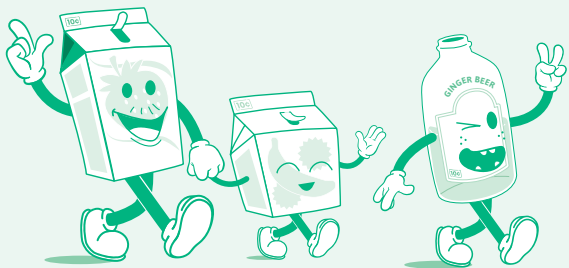
3. Taking action

Be the trailblazers and implement a coordinated effort to get your whole school community involved in Containers for Change and other waste and sustainability projects at the school.



Scan the QR code or visit c4change.info/schoolsresources to access our WA Schools Resource folder!





The following activities can be implemented in different classroom settings and can be tailored to your cohort of students. The activities have been mapped to the **Western Australian Curriculum for the following year groups and subjects:**

- Pre-Primary to Year 6 (HASS, Science, English & Maths)
- Year 7 (HASS, Science, English & Maths)
- VET Unit BSBSUS211: Participate in Sustainable Work Practices.

Visit the **WA Schools Resource folder** and check out the [Curriculum Mapping reference guide](#) to learn more about how these activities align to the curriculum.

RESEARCH & ENQUIRY

ACTIVITY 1

10c containers, litter, landfill and the circular economy

As a class or individually, ask students to investigate what the Containers for Change program is and why we need it in WA. Using the **Containers for Change website**, the **WA Schools Resource folder**, **partner resources** and independent research, students can investigate and discuss the following topics:

- What is Containers for Change?
- What is landfill?
- Is Containers for Change making a difference?
- What is the circular economy?

ACTIVITY 2

Journey of a 10c container

Take students on a learning experience by following the journey of a 10c container. Check out the **WA Schools Resource folder** for the *Journey of a 10c Container* worksheet, as well as videos, infographics, and other supporting materials.

Watch the *Lifecycle of Glass* video as a class.

Ask students to make a visual representation of the journey of a 10c container.

RESEARCH & ENQUIRY

ACTIVITY 3

Reinventing your 10¢ containers

Discuss as a class the different items that 10¢ containers are turned into. Review the *Reinventing Your 10¢ Containers Sheet* and use the *Container Flip Cards* to investigate the different material types recycled through Containers for Change, and what 10¢ containers are made into.

ACTIVITY 4

Environmental impacts

As a class, use a range of resources to investigate and discuss the impacts of landfill on the environment. Consider the impacts on wildlife, air quality, water quality, and human health.

In small groups, choose one of the topics to investigate and present your findings in a form that can be presented to the rest of the class (e.g. detailed poster, PowerPoint presentation, video recording). Include in your presentation how you, your class or your school could assist to reduce the impact to the environment.

Supporting resources:

- Have students use the *Environmental Impacts* worksheet to document their investigations and support discussion.
- Watch the news story [How Australia is sorting its giant waste and recycling problem](https://www.abc.net.au/news/2017-07-11/australia-is-sorting-its-giant-waste-and-recycling-problem/8711110) which shows some of the challenges with waste and how these problems are being managed.



Scan the QR code or visit [c4change.info/abcnewsstory](https://www.abc.net.au/news/2017-07-11/australia-is-sorting-its-giant-waste-and-recycling-problem/8711110).

RESEARCH & ENQUIRY

ACTIVITY 5

Excursion to a refund point

Visit a refund point or recycling facility to find out more about the process of recycling 10¢ containers.

You can ask your local refund point if they conduct tours, or, visit the [WasteSorted Schools External Resources webpage](#) to see if your council provides excursion support.



Scan the QR code or visit bit.ly/wss-ext to see if your council provides excursion support.

Before students visit the facility complete the following activities:

- Identify their current understanding of waste in general, recycling and Containers for Change.

- Have they been to a refund point/recycling facility before? What do they think happens at these facilities?
- Develop a range of focus questions to ask the staff at the facility.

At the refund point/recycling facility students should be note taking, specifically to answer the focus questions they developed.

After the excursion, discuss as a class:

- What they learnt at the facility — were all their questions answered?
- Did any of the information presented at the facility surprise them?
- What could their class do to encourage collection of 10¢ containers at their school?

SAFETY FIRST

It is important to note that not all refund points are safe environments for excursions. There are a number of hazards, safety measures and site rules to consider for your excursion management plan. If your refund point is open to excursions, be sure to talk to the site manager and visit the refund point beforehand, to conduct a risk assessment.

Virtual tours

If an excursion is not possible — no worries! Why not consider a virtual excursion?

You can do a virtual tour of:

- **A recycling facility.**
[Check out Orora Glass](#) on YouTube, who recycle glass returned through Containers for Change.
- **A materials recovery facility.**
Check out Recycle Right's virtual tour of a material recovery facility based right here in WA.



Scan the QR code or visit c4change.info/recycleright

CONTAINERS FOR CHANGE AT YOUR SCHOOL

ACTIVITY 6

Take the 10¢ container quiz

As a class, review the learnings from the research and enquiry stage and start to shift student focus to consider what this means in their lives, school, homes, and community.

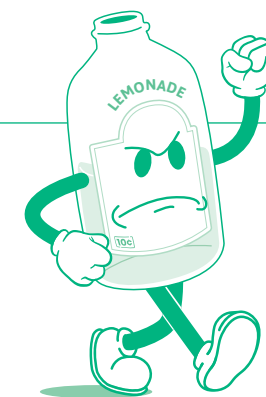
Ask students to complete the *Container Quiz Activity sheet* to get students thinking about different types of 10¢ containers, where they are consumed, and how they can improve recycling.

ACTIVITY 7

Conduct a school or classroom waste audit

Have students conduct a waste audit at school, at the canteen, or even at home, and discuss what types of 10¢ containers are being used, how they are being disposed of, and what they could do differently.

Have students use the Containers for Change app on a tablet to scan the barcode on drink containers found in your audit — ask students to identify if they are 10¢ containers or not?



You may like to use the data to calculate the percentage of each type of container being collected at your school and the percentage being collected in the Containers for Change bins verse those being disposed of in general waste bins.

WasteSorted Schools can assist with Waste Audit incursions. Visit [their website](https://www.wastesortedschools.org.au/containers-for-change) for more information.



Scan the QR code or visit bit.ly/wss-audit.

CONTAINERS FOR CHANGE AT YOUR SCHOOL

ACTIVITY 8

Counting 10¢ drink containers

Log in to your Containers for Change account to find out the number of 10¢ containers being collected by your school in different ways (e.g., tables and graphs).

Ask students to estimate the number of 10¢ containers that would be used in their home per week? Add all students' weekly totals together to get a class total.

Use the *Counting 10¢ Drink Containers* sheet to record data and calculations:

- Calculate how many 10¢ containers could be potentially collected from their class per year.
- Calculate how many 10¢ containers could be potentially collected from their school per year.
- How much money could be raised for the school if all families collected and donated their containers to the school?
- What could your school purchase with the funds raised?

Discussion questions:

- Does your class' 10¢ container total surprise you? If so, were you expecting more or less 10¢ containers.
- What changes could your family make to reduce their environmental impact and ensure that 10¢ containers do not end up in the red bin?
- Are the 10¢ containers being used at your school being collected for Containers for Change? Why or why not?
- What are some actions your class can take to increase your school's Containers for Change collection?

TAKING ACTION

ACTIVITY 9

Start up a green team

Start a student committee to drive your Containers for Change program, monitor bins and come up with creative ideas to educate others in the school community. Your school may already have a green team, eco-committee, or other group that work to improve and monitor sustainability at your school. Have a think about how they can incorporate Containers for Change into their existing activities or come up with new ideas and approaches.

Our friends at WasteSorted Schools have some great tips and resources on starting a green team.



Scan the QR code or visit
bit.ly/wss-greenteam

ACTIVITY 10

Set collection goals

How many 10¢ containers would you like to save as a class/school? Set a goal to reflect that number and map it on the *Setting Goals worksheet* in the **WA Schools Resource folder**.

Use the SMART Goals technique to help you.

- **S**pecific.
- **M**easurable.
- **A**chievable.
- **R**elevant.
- **T**ime-Bound.

HANDY HINT
Check out the
collections tracker
in the WA Schools
Resource folder.



ACTIVITY 11

Educational video

Have students create an educational video about Containers for Change and why others should get involved. Show the video at a school assembly or share in your e-newsletter.

Ideas of what can be included in your video:

- Why it is important to collect 10¢ containers. What happens to them if they are not collected?
- How many containers your school has collected so far.
- What your green team goal is for the term/year?
- What items might be funded by the money raised through Containers for Change?

TAKING ACTION

ACTIVITY 12

Persuasive text

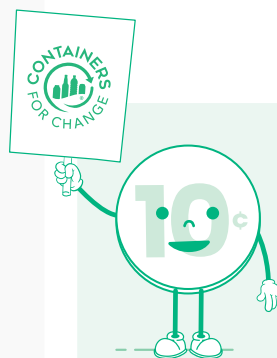
Have students (Year 2 and above) write a persuasive text about why Containers for Change is important.

For older age groups (Year 4 and up) write and present a speech to the class aiming to persuade their peers to collect and donate their 10¢ containers to Containers for Change. Share one or two at a school assembly or present to other classes.

ACTIVITY 13

Poster competition

Students create an informative poster to encourage students to collect and donate their 10¢ containers at your school. Pick the top 10 posters to use around the school, send the others home to get parents involved with collecting 10¢ containers at home.



HANDY HINT

Learn more about Carine Senior High School's posters competition on page 31.

ACTIVITY 14

Assembly

Run a Containers for Change assembly item as a class or green team. You could present your educational video to students during your presentation. Visit the **WA Schools Resource folder** for a template and fun infographics to support your presentation.



OTHER EDUCATION RESOURCES WE LOVE!

Still looking for more?

These organisations offer a range of resources and education options on sustainability, waste, recycling, and Containers for Change:

WasteSorted Schools

What they offer:

- WasteSorted Schools accreditation for WA schools.
- Printable bin stickers and posters.
- Free downloadable curriculum resources, fact sheets and toolkits.
- Waste incursions.
- Teacher professional learning.
- WasteSorted Schools grants for schools to purchase infrastructure that reduces waste going to landfill.



Scan the QR code or visit wasteauthority.wa.gov.au/wss/ to find out more.

Cool Australia

What they offer:

Helping top-notch Aussie teachers bring the real world to the classroom through quality, curriculum-aligned resources:

- Free to download curriculum aligned lesson plans for teachers, students, and parents — including a great range on the circular economy.
- **Containers for Change lesson plans for years 5 and 6 — new in 2024!**



Scan the QR code or visit cool.org to find out more.



Keep Australia Beautiful Council

What they offer:

- The Clean Schools litter education program.
- School litter incursions.
- Free resources, activities, and case studies.
- Teacher professional learning.
- Community and school clean up events.



Scan the QR code or visit kabc.wa.gov.au/get-involved/clean-schools to find out more.

Local Government Authorities

What they offer:

While Local Government waste services vary, your local council may offer the following services:

- School based waste education and incursions.
- Community waste education.
- Waste education resources.



Scan the QR code or visit walga.asn.au/your-local-government/directory to find out more.

Regional Local Governments

What they offer:

Established to deliver specialist services for a collective of local governments your local regional council may offer the following services:

- Waste Education for schools and community.
- Professional learning opportunities.
- Waste activations at events.
- Waste education resources.



Scan the QR code or visit walga.asn.au/your-local-government/local-government-directory/regional-councils to find out more.

COMMUNITY

WHOLE SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY

Make Containers for Change an everyday school activity.

Put collection bins outside your canteen and at school events. Do a collection drive and get your school community collecting at home, at work or out and about.



Image: Shenton College student council leading the schools 10¢ container collections.

GET INVOLVED

Why is it important to involve your whole school community?

Containers for Change schools that have many people involved, tend to be more effective and can withstand the test of time. Ensure your program is embedded in your school so it lives on successfully, despite future changes to staff and volunteers.

Pick your captain and teammates

In the member portal you can add additional captains and teammates, so others in your organisation can get involved. Captains are the main points of contact for your school's member number, similar to an admin. In the member portal, teammates are able to share your goals, and check how many 10¢ containers you've saved from general waste. But only captains will be able to access and edit private account information or banking details. Think carefully about who can be involved as captains and teammates.

Review your school's current waste plan and policy

This can be the key to ensuring that Containers for Change and other positive waste practices are embedded in your school process, today, and into the future.

Work with your P&C trailblazers

WA P&C's have been a huge part of the WA scheme since we began in 2020. Ask your P&C if they are already involved or would like to sign up. Your class may be able to support existing school fundraising activities.

HANDY HINT

Whoever sets up your account will automatically be assigned as captain. In the member portal, you can add and change your captain at any time.



Promote to your school community

Spread the word — tell your school community about your fundraising goal and share your member number for virtual donations. Use our digital fundraising folder to create flyers, posters, newsletter features, and social media posts.

Share your goals and wins

- Share your goals and progress, and bring your community on the journey.
- Invite your local refund point operator or local community leaders to present an award.
- Announce your collection totals and goal as a permanent newsletter and assembly item.

HANDY HINT

Check out our *Trailblazer Award Certificates* in the WA Schools Resource folder, and check your collection totals in the member portal.



Let your students lead the way

Get your green team, student leaders, or class involved and have them lead with educational assemblies, promotion, competitions, and bin monitoring. Embed this in your school programs to support student leadership and a sense of ownership in their school and ensure all the work is not left to teaching staff.

Incentives and awards

- Provide a discount at the canteen in exchange for collected 10¢ Containers.
- Run a class, year level, or house competition and reward the group that collects the most containers.
- Have a Containers for Change award at assembly. Use our *Trailblazer Award Certificates* available in the WA Schools Resource Folder.
- Nominate a sustainability captain, or committee and give them recognition for this important role.



Image: Students celebrating their collection success at Living waters Lutheran College.

Collect at events

- Use special events where consumption is higher to promote your Containers for Change program and increase collections — reach out to your refund point to supply bins and an extra collection.
- Run a container drive, promoting a special day for your school community to bring in 10¢ containers.



HANDY HINT

Check out the *Events Guide* in our Fundraising folder for more top tips on collecting 10¢ containers at events.



Collect at the canteen

Whether run by your P&C, school staff or external provider, your canteen can get involved and ensure any 10¢ drink containers sold are kept out of general waste.

Ask your canteen if they can promote Containers for Change and encourage positive behaviours right from when 10¢ drink containers are purchased.

Collect at home

Get students recycling at home:

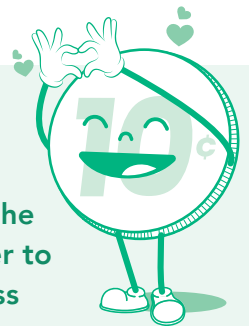
- Provide parents with a collection bag and information about Containers for Change.
- Encourage students to fundraise for school or collect 10¢ containers for pocket money.
- Students can explore other organisations in their community that fundraise with Containers for Change.
- Have a collection drive or allocate a special day for students to return 10¢ containers at school.

Collect from businesses

WA is home to thousands of trailblazers and community container savers. Reach out to local businesses and ask them to get involved. They may be willing to collect and donate their 10¢ drink containers to the school.

HANDY HINT

Check out our fundraising letter and parent letter in the WA Schools Resource folder to help you grow your business and community support.



GET INVOLVED

CASE STUDIES

Read about some of our WA school and P&C trailblazers.

Beaconsfield Primary School P&C

A nature play area, native plantings, and over 43,913 10¢ containers saved from landfill — these are just some of the things Beaconsfield Primary School has created since they started fundraising through Containers for Change in 2020.

Having raised over \$4,391 by collecting 10¢ containers, the school has found a way to meet its environmental goals and increase school sustainability, while raising much needed funds.

Teacher Ceri Page who introduced the initiative into the school, has been blown away by the impact of Containers for Change. Ceri said the school has used the funds for green initiatives, including native seedlings, a nature play area, and a FOGO collection service to further reduce the school's waste.

"The refunds from Containers for Change are a win-win for Beaconsfield Primary School. It's great for the environment, it builds community awareness, and it means our school can use the money for green initiatives on site," Ceri said.



Image: Teacher Ceri Page and students from Beaconsfield Primary School showing off their collected 10¢ containers.

The school found that one of the easiest components of fundraising with Containers for Change was the process to get it started.

Initially, the school contacted their local refund point operator Scouts WA, who provided the school with a 240L bin to start saving 10¢ containers, and arranged a regular collection.

The school encourage their students and families to donate containers directly at the school, or by quoting the school's member number at their local refund point or bag drop.

Bremer Bay Primary School P&C

Bremer Bay is a small, remote town in WA's Great Southern region. The Bremer Bay Primary School has just 24 children, but an active and dedicated P&C committee of local parents, passionate about their school, their community and the local children and families.

In 2020, the P&C commenced fundraising through Containers for Change, with funds used to support students with additional costs and equipment needs for school camps and excursions. With limited options for fundraising, the P&C members jumped at the opportunity to raise funds from collecting 10¢ drink containers. By the end of the 2020-2021 festive season, the school and P&C had almost the entire community behind them, collecting and donating their 10¢ containers!

On the back of their initial success, the P&C considered how they could leverage the summer crowds that come to enjoy their beautiful area.

The population of just 350 permanent residents swells to more than 10,000 over the holiday season causing an influx of waste including potentially recyclable 10¢ drink containers. The committee realised they could divert containers destined for overflowing bins and the local tip, and turn them into valuable fundraising dollars.

By the following summer the P&C had secured partnerships with local businesses like the brewery, cafés, takeaway outlets, a resort, and the general store. They targeted businesses with known sales of eligible 10¢ drink containers and had a suite of partners jumping onboard. Next they targeted high traffic areas such as camping grounds, fishing and boating hot spots, and public areas like the skate park. They placed collection bags at these sites to capture 10¢ containers.

The P&C's strategies were so effective that they say "December 2021 – Jan 2022 was literally our Summer of Cans!". With collections, scheme awareness, and local



Image: A Containers for Change collection bag set up to enhance recycling and support fundraising by Bremer Bay Primary School P&C.

waste all improving. Not only did their collection totals increase overnight, but awareness of the scheme, reduction of waste, and visitor involvement all followed.

These days the P&C's efforts are still going strong, with students getting involved too. Collection bags are handed out across town with the P&C member number on the bag. Tourists are directed to easy to access drop off points so they can collect and donate on the P&C's behalf.

To date, Bremer Bay P&C has collected and recycled a total of 340,547 10¢ drink containers, and raised more than \$34,000 for the local school students and community. In recognition of their amazing work, the P&C were awarded the *Community Group of the Year* at the 2022 Change Maker Awards.



Carine Senior High School

Carine Senior High School have implemented some fantastic container-saving ideas to support the school's fundraising efforts while enhancing student's understanding of recycling and Containers for Change.

Cara-May McGrogan, teacher at the Carine Senior High School, says the school made a conscious decision to introduce Containers for Change in a structured and intentional manner, to "create a culture to be carried through", with students maturing in their knowledge and motivation for saving 10¢ containers with each step.

The school's 'Young Minds, Global Thinkers' student group now head up the program, with help from superhero science teacher Angela Hawryluk.

When starting out, the school's first step was to get set up for collecting 10¢ containers.

Next they focused on getting the message out to others about how and why to collect. To support this they ran a poster competition, encouraging students to get creative and design educational posters to display around the school. In the process, the students conducted research about Containers for Change and 10¢ drink containers.

The third step was a "trial and error" approach, to identify in the best ways to physically collect 10¢ containers at school.

Students are encouraged to bring in their empty drink containers, with designated drop-off locations and containers bins around the school.

The school emphasises the scheme at sports carnivals, school discos, and other events.

Image (left): Creative posters designed by students for Carine Senior High School's poster competition.

Churchlands Primary School

This dedicated Perth school has a strong environment and sustainability program, with students actively involved in the management of a vegetable garden, frog garden, chickens, composting, worms and recycling. Students also help to build environmental and sustainability awareness within the school community.

At the start of February 2021, teacher Sheree Samsa, incorporated Containers for Change into the program, helping to educate students about recycling and waste reduction, as well as developing their social conscience and personal values by donating the funds raised to local causes.

The school kick started their container-saving campaign with promotion via school assemblies, newsletters, and social media. They also partnered with their local refund point, who provided bins and a collection service. Once the bins are collected, the 10¢ containers are sorted and counted, and using the school's unique member number, the funds are credited directly into the school's bank account.

To encourage correct behaviours and reduce contamination, the school placed clear signage on several smaller bins outside classrooms. These bins are checked each day after lunch by the Year 5 environmental officers, who empty them into the larger bins.

The school also ran a two-week competition between classes, which saw a significant increase in container volume. Students brought 10¢ containers in from home to raise \$530.70, with the winning class receiving new class bird feeders.

Since joining Containers for Change the funds from 10¢ containers have helped pay for the school's frog habitat garden, an eco shed upgrade, and the purchase of 'Solar Buddy' lights for children in third world countries and remote communities with limited access to electricity. Last year, Churchlands Primary School raised more than \$2,000 from to purchase and build 58 Solar Buddies.

Principal Kym Fraser said that Containers for Change is an important part of the school's philosophy of giving back to the community and those in need.



Image: Students at Churchlands Primary School with their collected 10¢ containers.

"We have a number of initiatives at the school, and this is one where we can actually let the kids know that it's not all about them. It's about giving back and paying it forward to people who are less fortunate than we are."

Frederick Irwin Anglican School

Frederick Irwin Anglican School introduced Containers for Change as a part of their new sustainability program in 2022. The program is led by a group of dedicated students from Year 7 to Year 12, who are passionate about reducing their impact on the planet.

While teacher Alison Robins organises the committee meetings each week, she said the students are very much leading the program. "Our sustainability prefect Phoebe Hall has really led this from the start. She and prefect Luke created a video to educate the students at the start of the year as it was during COVID-19 restrictions, and they couldn't talk with students face to face."

Phoebe said that going from zero recycling to a suite of multi-coloured lid bins required a lot of educating initially from the sustainability committee to the school. "We promoted it with posters and would stand in front of the white lid container bins during recess and lunch, telling students to put their containers here, telling them each container would raise money for charity or for the school," she explained.

The school has forged a strong partnership with its local refund point operator Community Recycling WA (CRWA), who collect the bins when they are full. CRWA has partnered with 28 schools in the Rockingham and Peel region, providing bins, collecting containers and depositing funds into schools' accounts. Each term it announces the top five container collecting schools, to promote healthy competition and motivate schools to keep up their container collecting efforts.

Previously the school did not actively recycle, but it is now one of CRWA's top collecting schools. As of November 2023, the students have collected 8,682 10¢ containers. "We posted on our social media platforms and school newsletter, and we've seen a gradual increase in parents and students wanting to be involved," said Alison.

The resounding success of the program highlights the effectiveness of a student-led approach, with peer groups more inclined to follow each other's lead in taking an active role in reducing waste.



Frederick Irwin Anglican School's Sustainability Prefect and Sirli Kellian from the school's refund point partner Community Recycling WA.

Kensington Secondary School

The winners of the *School of the Year* and overall *Change Maker of the Year* at the 2023 Change Maker Awards!

This passionate team, including teachers, students and their local refund point operator, have collected a huge 104,728 10¢ containers since signing up to the scheme in October 2020. But this trailblazing school's achievements go far beyond the thousands of containers saved and recycled.

Kensington Secondary School provides education support to students living with a disability, as well as the opportunity to gain experience in various roles that are common to disability employment services where students may choose to work after finishing school. The school's Work Ready Programme Coordinator Mandy Reiher, saw an opportunity to incorporate Containers for Change into their student 'Work Ready' program, which includes a simulated workshop where students try out and learn skills for a number of potential jobs.

The school has set up an area especially for sorting and counting 10¢ containers, and visit refund points to gain experience about what it is like working at a Containers for Change refund point. The program not only enhances the student's employment potential but builds their confidence to support a positive transition to employment post-school. Not to mention, many of the students just thoroughly enjoy counting 10¢ containers!

Kensington Secondary School have partnered with several local businesses, including the Waterford Plaza Shopping Centre who happily donate their 10¢ containers to this brilliant cause.

The school work closely with local refund point operator Container Refunder, who collect 10¢ containers from the school and its partners. The students love their weekly visit from Keith the depot driver and Mandy says Keith is "the unsung hero!".

Images: Above – Students and teacher Mandy Reiher from Kensington Secondary School, with Keith from the school's partner refund point Container Refunder. Below – Teachers from Kensington Secondary School and local MP Hannah Beasley, celebrating the school's two wins at the 2023 Change Maker Awards.





Mukinbudin Primary School P&C

The Mukinbudin P&C are the ultimate trailblazers, going above and beyond to raise funds by returning 10¢ containers from across their community. They have collected over 155,025 containers since commencing, and partner with the local refund point and Shire to spread the word and get their town on board.

The P&C approached their local refund point, Wheatbelt Cash for Containers, to help set up a donation point and bag drop shed to enable their community to donate 10¢ containers any time, in an accessible, central location. The P&C actively encourages parents, students, and community members to collect 10¢ containers at home and donate them directly at the shed.

The Shire of Mukinbudin supported with the placement of collection bins across the community in high traffic areas such as the sporting complex, caravan parks, playgrounds, the local swimming pool, and on the main street.

Recognising that community events can yield thousands of 10¢ containers bound for general waste, the P&C encourages the community to make use of their collection infrastructure to collect 10¢ containers at events and community activities.

The P&C keep their supporters updated on their Containers for Change fundraising goal by posting a thermometer tracker on their Facebook page, in their school newsletters, and in the local newspaper.

To get the local sporting groups on board, the P&C wrote to each and asked for their support — nearly all agreed to support in collecting their 10¢ containers.

Mukinbudin Primary School P&C have a goal of raising \$6,000 per year through Containers for Change. They are an amazing example of a community coming together to recycle 10¢ containers and raise funds for a local cause.

Images: Above – Mukinbudin P&C's impressive donation point shed and bag drop. Below – Mukinbudin Primary School student's with a bag of 10¢ containers.

CHECKLIST

Infrastructure

	Get set up to collect – Sign up for a member number and find a local refund point.
	Perfect your bin game – Organise your bins and make plans for collection and monitoring.
	Get 10¢ container savvy – Discover which 10¢ containers we accept for return.
	Safety first – Keep students and staff safe by sharing relevant OHS information.

Education

	Containers for Change in the Classroom – Integrate container saving into classroom learning.
	Key learning areas – Map out the 1,2,3 of classroom learning and activities.
	Activity Ideas – Think about the activities suitable for your school and student age group.
	Education resources we love – Consider other resources to support student understanding.



Whole school and community

	Make it an everyday school activity – Consider all the ways your school can get involved.
	Pick your captain and teammates – Have a strong team and get set up in the member portal.
	Work with your P&C – Find out if your P&C is involved, and how you can help.
	Promote to your school community – Plan for updates in your regular school communications.
	Share your goals and wins – Set goals and make plans to monitor and share your progress.
	Start a student green team – Set up a group or get an existing committee involved.
	Assemblies and awards – Plan for education and recognition at assemblies and events.
	Collect at events – Map out your schools' key events and plan for collecting 10¢ containers.
	Collect at the canteen – Talk to your canteen, find out what 10¢ containers are sold.
	Collect at home – Encourage students to educate parents and collect 10¢ containers at home.
	Collect from businesses – Contact local businesses that may collect and donate to your school.



GET IN TOUCH

Reach out to the community team at getinvolved@warrl.com.au



Stay in the loop

Sign up to the e-newsletter.

We want to make sure your school reaches its full potential!

For helpful ideas, tips, and information, join our monthly newsletter. Visit the Containers for Change WA website to sign up!



Scan the QR code or visit c4change.info/guideCMC.



Share your stories

We love hearing your Containers for Change stories and featuring them in our e-newsletter and socials.

Help us inspire other schools to get involved by sending your story, a few photos, and your contact details to getinvolved@warrl.com.au



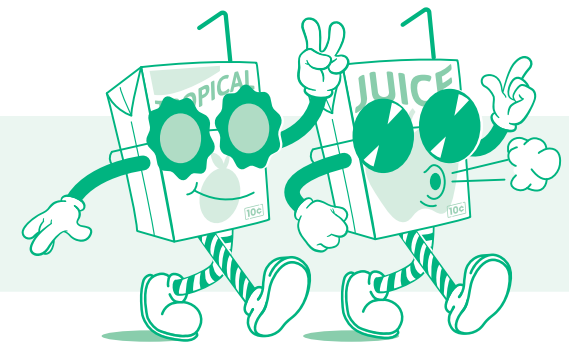
Celebrate the Change Makers

Each year, we hold our Change Maker Awards to recognise WA's container-saving heroes — and your school could take home an award!

Sign up for our e-news and follow us on social media for Change Maker Award registrations and announcements.



Follow us on socials at **@4changeWA** (and don't forget to tag us!).





CAN'T COME TO US?

WE'LL COLLECT FROM YOU.

Introducing **Containers for Change Collect**.
It's never been easier to return your 10¢ containers.

Visit c4change.info/collect to find out more.



GET IN TOUCH

Reach out to the community team at getinvolved@warrrl.com.au



This guide has been developed in partnership with the WasteSorted Schools Program.

Information correct as of 16 Feb 2026.