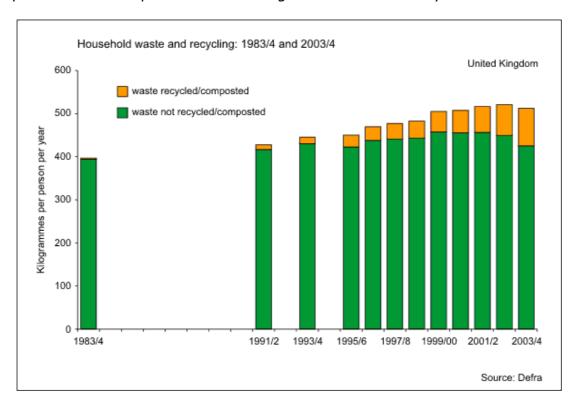


Waste not Want not

In Phase 6 of CensusAtSchool we are asking questions on what items students households recycle and whether they feel they are doing enough to improve the environment. The graph and table of data below, taken from "The environment in your pocket 2005" show how much waste each person in the UK produces on average over a number of years.



kilograms per person per year

	1983/4	1991/2	1995/6	2000/1	2001/2	2002/3	2003/4
Waste not recycled	394	417	423	455	456	449	425
Waste recycled/ composted	3	11	27	52	60	71	87
Total waste	397	428	450	507	516	521	512

This is a UK Government sustainable development strategy indicator

TASK

Write a paragraph describing the statistics contained in the graph and table. Explain what the graph is telling you and comment on the trends shown.

Compare your answer to the text given in the actual booklet. (given overleaf)

The Environment in your pocket 2005 is available from Defra at www.defra.gov.uk/environment/statistics/index.htm

This resource is from the CensusAtSchool project at www.censusatschool.ntu.ac.uk



Original text:

Household waste includes household bin waste and also waste from civic amenity sites, other household collections and recycling sites.

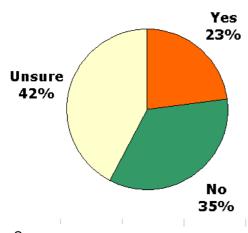
On average each person in the UK generates just over half a tonne of household waste per year. Between 1995/6 and 2003/4 UK household waste per person increased by 14 per cent, but was below the 2001/2 amount in 2003/4.

The amount per person recycled or composted has increased steadily each year and in 2003/4 was over three times the 1995/6 level. In 2003/4, 17 per cent of UK household waste was recycled. The amount of non-recycled waste per person has decreased in the last two years and is at a similar level to 1995/6 – most of this goes to landfill.

TASK

Do you think that YOU personally do enough to improve the environment?

The pie chart shows the responses from 4000 secondary school students.



Source – CensusAtSchool Phase 6 2005

- 1. Why do you think so many students are unsure?
- 2. What things could you personally do?
- 3. Who do you think should be responsible for the environment we live in?