

Subject:- Social Studies

Teacher:- Mili Bhatnagar

Chapter 18

Waste Management

We know that when things are of no use to us we throw them away as waste or garbage. A large quantity of waste is generated from houses, factories, offices, schools, colleges, markets, hospitals and hotels.

Waste affects our environment.

It pollutes land, water and air. The surroundings look dirty and ugly. Drains get choked and give off a foul smell.

So it is important to dispose of waste properly.

Broadly, we can classify the waste into two types

1. Biodegradable waste rots easily and mixes with the soil. Leftover food, fruit and vegetable peels, paper, fallen leaves are biodegradable waste. Microorganisms such as bacteria and fungi decompose such waste.
2. Non biodegradable waste does not rot easily and does not mix with soil also. Plastic goods, polythene bags, silver, foil, aluminium cans, glass, metals and parts of electronic goods are non-biodegradable waste. They remain in the environment for many years and pollute it.

In the next lecture we will deal with ways to manage waste.