



leave no trace

NEW ZEALAND

LESSON

Dispose of Waste Properly (rubbish/water)



HOOK 1

Borrow someone's cup of water (let them in on the plan before you do this!) and do your dishes in it complaining loudly about what a mess my cup is and how dirty. Hand the cup back with dirty dishwater in it. The person is outraged. "but whats your problem, its biodegradeable detergent..."

DISCUSSION

Why is this relevant for Leave No Trace ethics?

Thinking about the plants and animals that live in streams.

CONCLUSIONS

"Imagine the strength a detergent must have to strip day-old grease from a greasy pan. Now imagine what happens when that detergent comes into contact with the slippery skin of a fish or the waxy coating of a plant" (quote from the book "Cradle to cradle").

Waste is dirty water, dinner leftovers, shampoo and soaps. How do we need to dispose of these? Away from water so they can be filtered by the soil. Dilution is the solution to pollution. While biodegradeable detergents break down more rapidly in the environment, until they break down, detergents are still harmful to plants and animals in the water.

HOOK 2

"You guys look great, let me take some photos"

Pull camera out of pocket inadvertently pulling out a wadge of rubbish (pretend not to notice and take photos.

DISCUSSION

Accidental rubbish is also a problem: discuss temporarily stuffing rubbish into the lid of your pack, pockets, other places where it is likely to fly around the countryside.

If you find some rubbish on the track where would you put it? Brainstorm best options

CONCLUSION

Dispose of Waste Properly, put it somewhere it won't come out and be rubbish somewhere else.

7 Principles of Leave No Trace

- Plan Ahead and Prepare
- Travel and Camp on Durable Surfaces
- Dispose of Waste Properly
- Leave What You Find
- Minimise Campfire Impacts
- Respect Wildlife and Farm Animals
- Be Considerate of Others

