

Waste through the Ages (MTCBC)

Science Shops Wales were contacted to see if they could help with a joint project between MTCBC and Cyfarthfa Castle Museum on 'Waste Through the Ages'.

SSW was asked to undertake to:

Establish figures on household waste and recycling in the MTCBC area and provide a visual interpretation that would stimulate discussion and behaviour changes in children of junior school age for a World Environment Day presentation.

Initial enquiries led straight back to the office of the waste awareness officer and a comprehensive range of figures was requested.

Unfortunately there was a tight time constraint on the project and although figures were eventually received, they came too late to complete the project to the full satisfaction of the SSW development officer (no visual representation was provided).

However a good analogy, using real figures and geography, was provided and the client was understanding of the difficulties and happy with the information.

Figures:

Using Cyfarthfa Castle Grounds Courtyard (venue for presentation)

Capacity³ of given area (in this case inner courtyard at Cyfarthfa Castle / Capacity³ household wheelie bin (as supplied by MTCBC) x number of households in borough X 1 (average waste per household) x weeks

$$\frac{\text{Capacity of courtyard (m}^3\text{)}}{(\text{Capacity of Wheelie Bin (m}^3\text{)} \times \text{number of households})}$$

= number of weeks rubbish to fill given volume

Working on 1 full wheelie bin per property per week it would take around 3 weeks worth of rubbish to fill the castle courtyard.