In September we had a theme based science day. Seventh grade students visited the local waste collection center Rudno, which also includes a waste water cleaning plant. We were greeted by the manager of the centre and she explained the different aspect of waste collecting as well as presented the entire wastewater treatment process.

The treatment plant collects wastewater from Železniki, Studen and Rudno. We have learned that the treatment plant is bio-mechanical. Mechanical cleaning is performed first. Waste water flows into the treatment plant where, first, the larger parts of the water are cleaned with rough rakes and then even finer rakes are used to clean the smallest particles. After mechanical cleaning, it is still biological. The water is purified in four large treatment pools, then continues its course into the Sora River. The students also took a look at the control booth. The screens showed us the entire course of purification. We walked past some parts of the treatment plant.

The waste collection centre manager later explained how waste collecting takes place. Various waste is collected, such as waste from wood, ceramics, metals, white goods, plastics, styrofoam. They also accept unusable electrical appliances and rubber products, as well as more hazardous waste such as sprays, varnishes, cleaners, batteries ... Most of the waste is taken to foreign countries, and rubber waste is taken to the Anhovo cement plant for incineration.

We spent an interesting morning, learned a lot of new and useful things, and above all we became aware of the importance of the waste water cleaning plant and the collection centre for Železniki and its surroundings.

Jan Peternelj, 7.c