

What do you know about waste management? Think again! – survey analysis

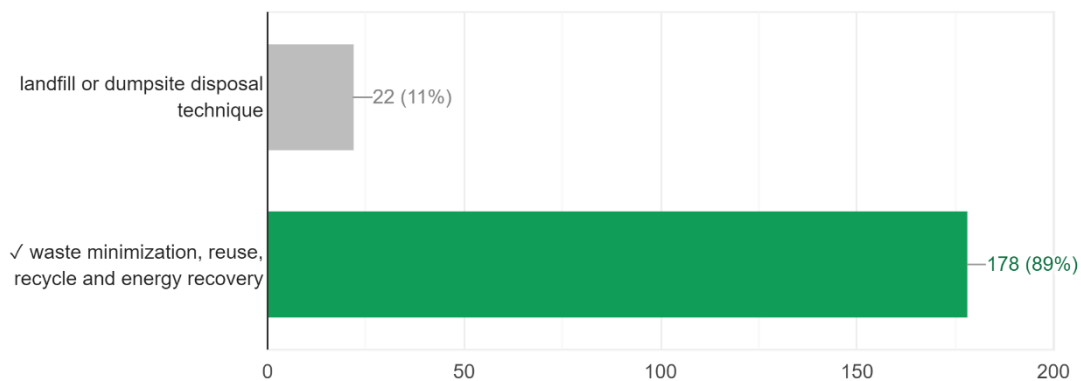
At the beginning of the project a survey “What do you know about waste management? Think again!” was conducted. 200 students and teachers from Poland, Bulgaria, Romania, Turkey and Lithuania took part in the survey.

The main objective of the survey was testing the level of awareness and knowledge of students/teachers from different countries about waste management. As the aim of the project is raising the level of ecological awareness and knowledge the same survey will be conducted at the end of the project, in June 2022, to check the accomplishment of the project objectives.

Respondents know quite well, that landfill and dumpsite disposal techniques are not the most environmentally friendly ones.

What are the best ways of dealing with waste, both economically and environmentally?

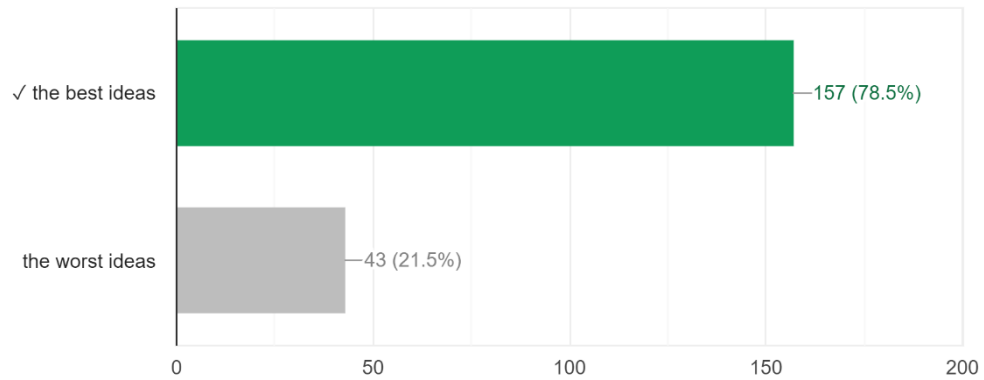
178 / 200 correct responses



They are also quite aware of the most effective ways of reducing waste.

Choose the best and the worst ways of reducing the amount of waste

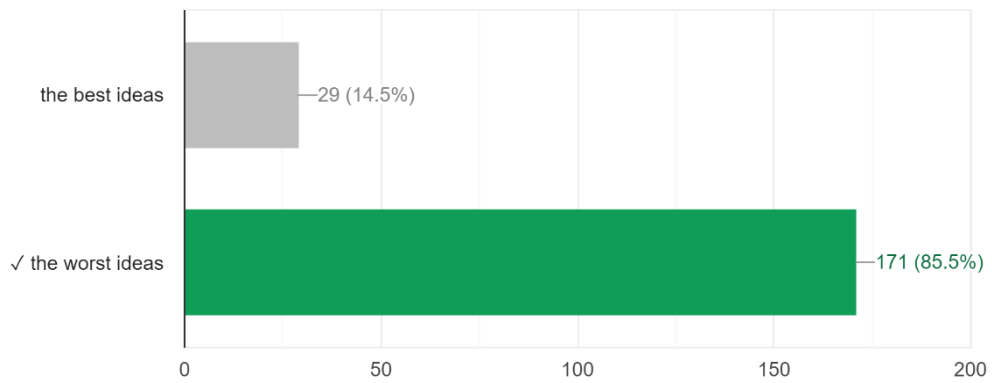
157 / 200 correct responses



Row 1: Reduce Consumption

Choose the best and the worst ways of reducing the amount of waste

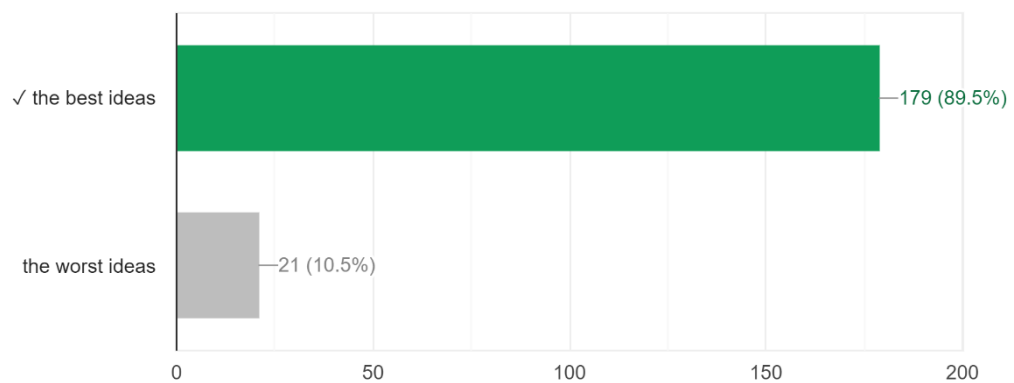
171 / 200 correct responses



Row 2: Buy a lot of new things

Choose the best and the worst ways of reducing the amount of waste

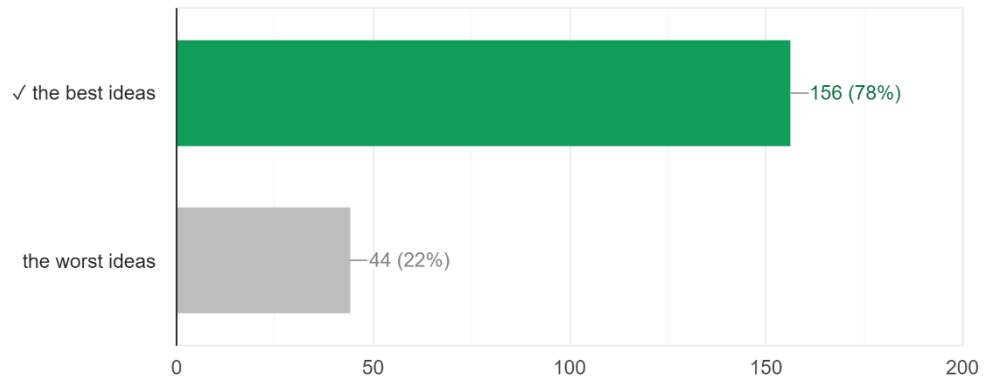
179 / 200 correct responses



Row 3: Shop with Reusable Bags

Choose the best and the worst ways of reducing the amount of waste

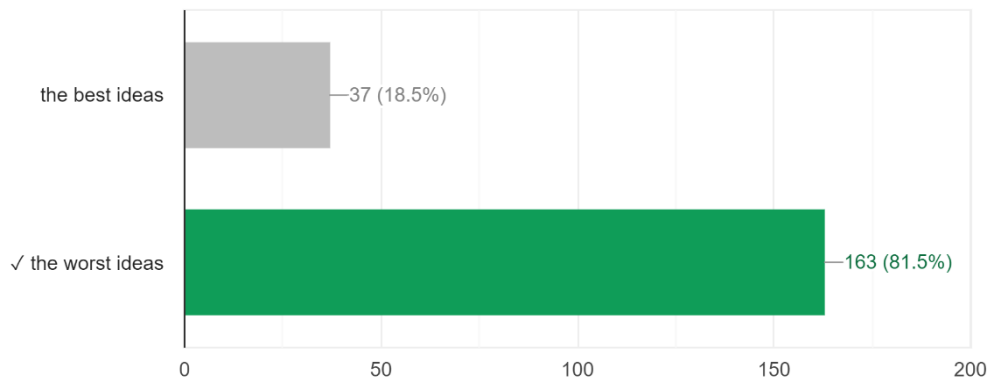
156 / 200 correct responses



Row 4: Reuse Food Containers

Choose the best and the worst ways of reducing the amount of waste

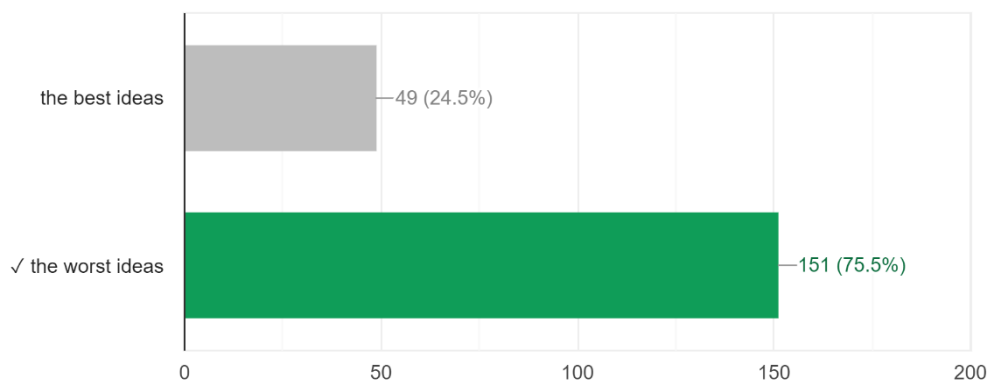
163 / 200 correct responses



Row 5: Use a single-use shopping bag

Choose the best and the worst ways of reducing the amount of waste

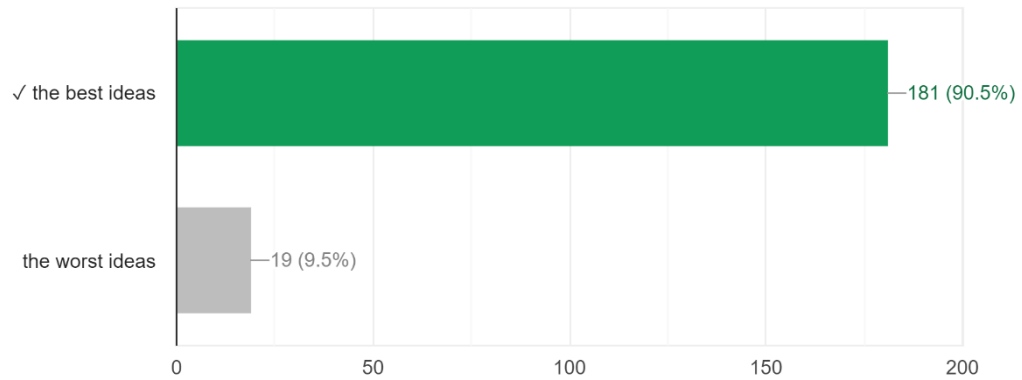
151 / 200 correct responses



Row 6: Don't buy locally made products

Choose the best and the worst ways of reducing the amount of waste

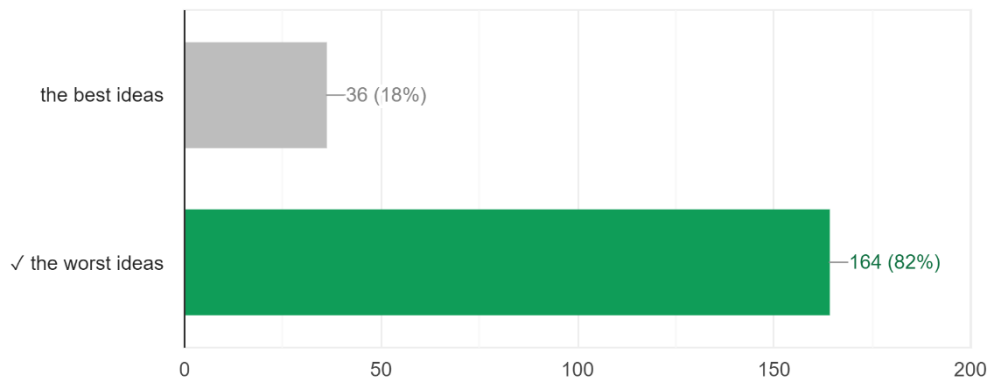
181 / 200 correct responses



Row 7: Recycle

Choose the best and the worst ways of reducing the amount of waste

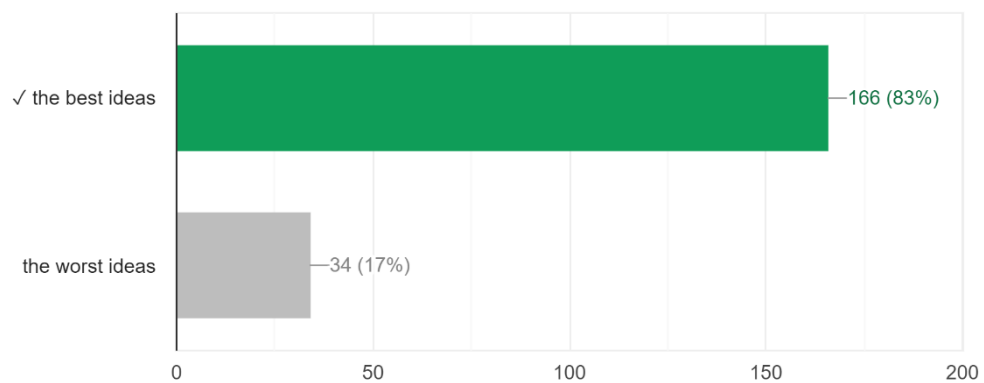
164 / 200 correct responses



Row 8: Put all the rubbish into one bin

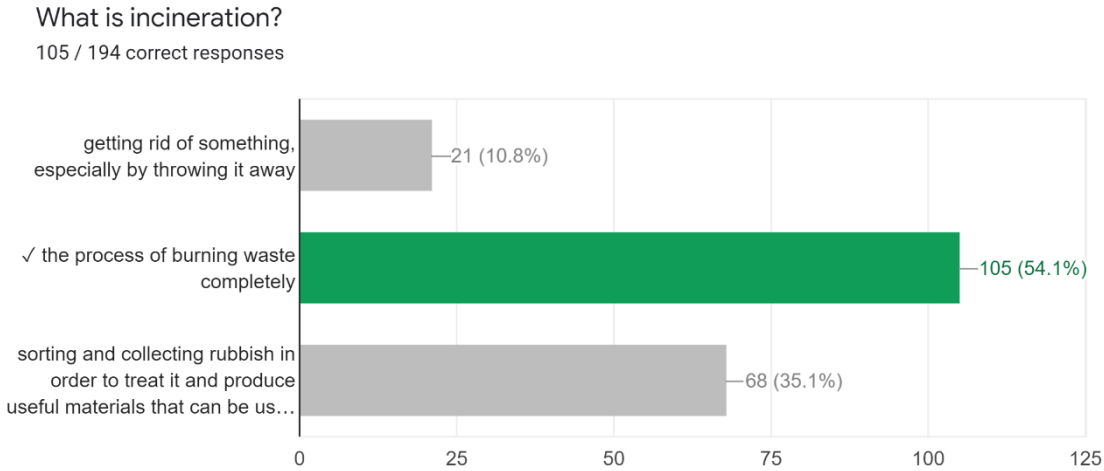
Choose the best and the worst ways of reducing the amount of waste

166 / 200 correct responses



Row 9: Reuse

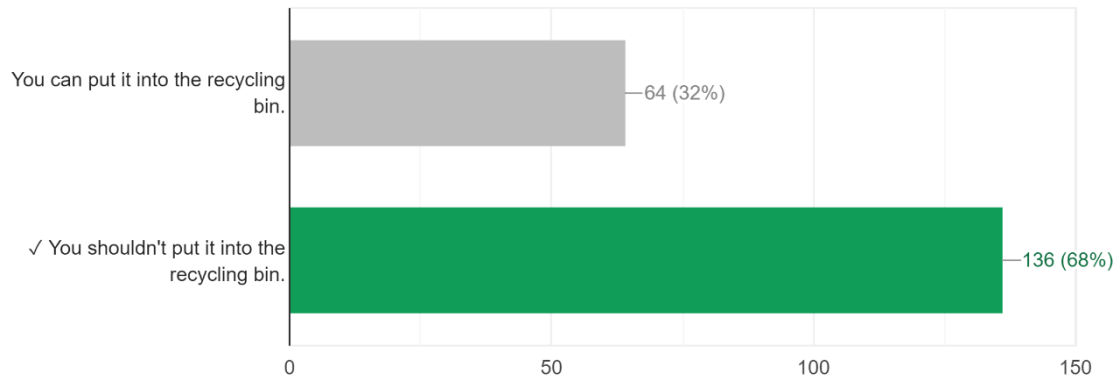
54 per cent of the respondents know the term incineration. This is the topic that should be discussed during the project.



Responders did quite well with choosing the items that you can and cannot put in the recycling bins. Paper towels turned out to be the most problematic - jus 45 per cent answered correctly. Waste sorting is the topic that will be discussed during the project, as it is very important for the environment.

What are the most common items that you can put into the recycling bin?

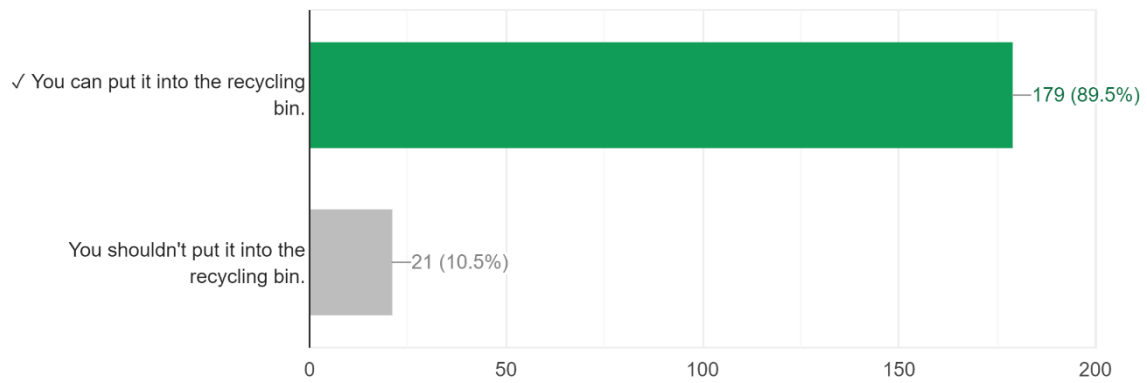
136 / 200 correct responses



Row 1: Sewing needles

What are the most common items that you can put into the recycling bin?

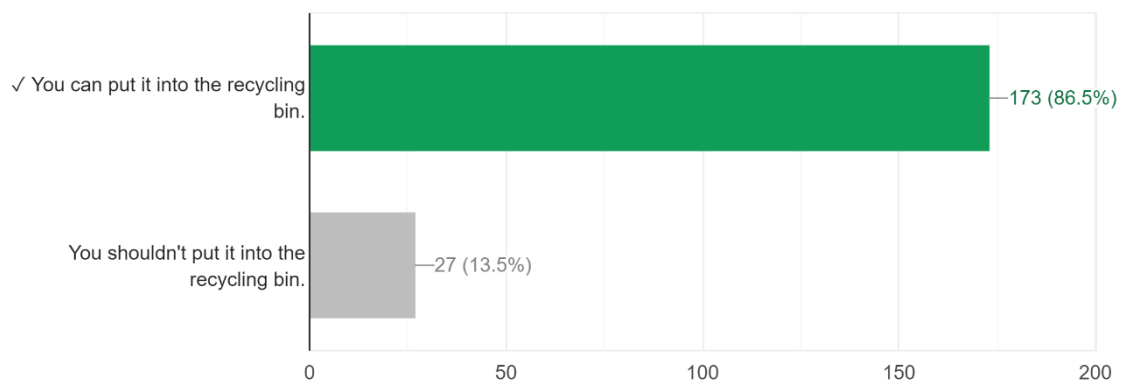
179 / 200 correct responses



Row 2: Paper

What are the most common items that you can put into the recycling bin?

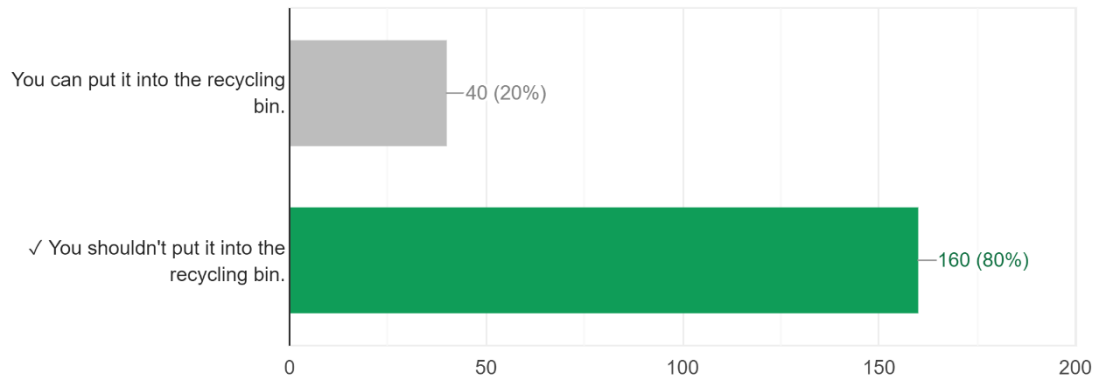
173 / 200 correct responses



Row 3: Glass bottles

What are the most common items that you can put into the recycling bin?

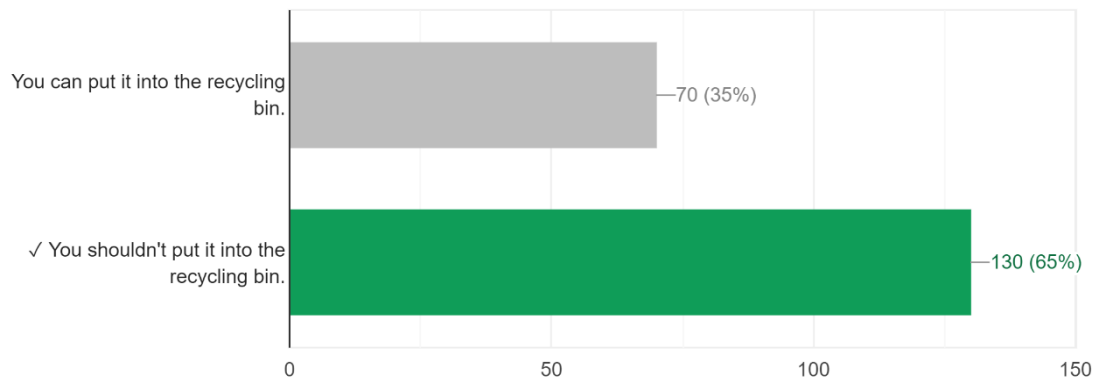
160 / 200 correct responses



Row 4: Aerosol cans that aren't empty

What are the most common items that you can put into the recycling bin?

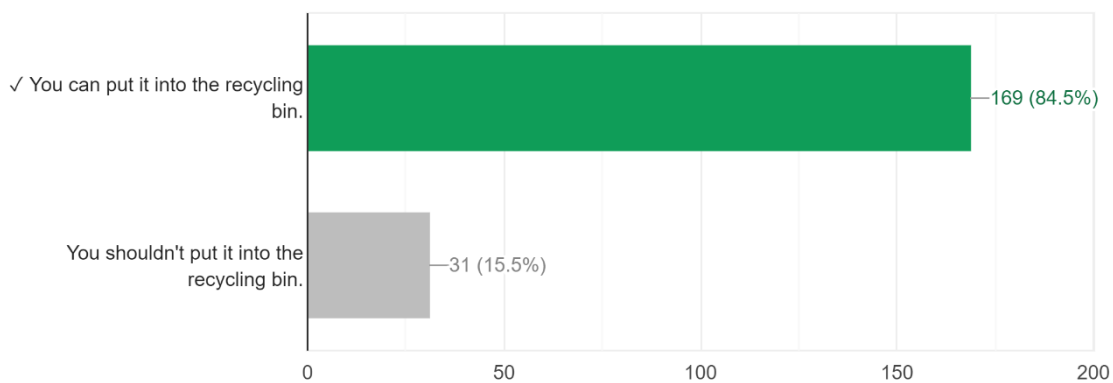
130 / 200 correct responses



Row 5: Food or food-soiled paper

What are the most common items that you can put into the recycling bin?

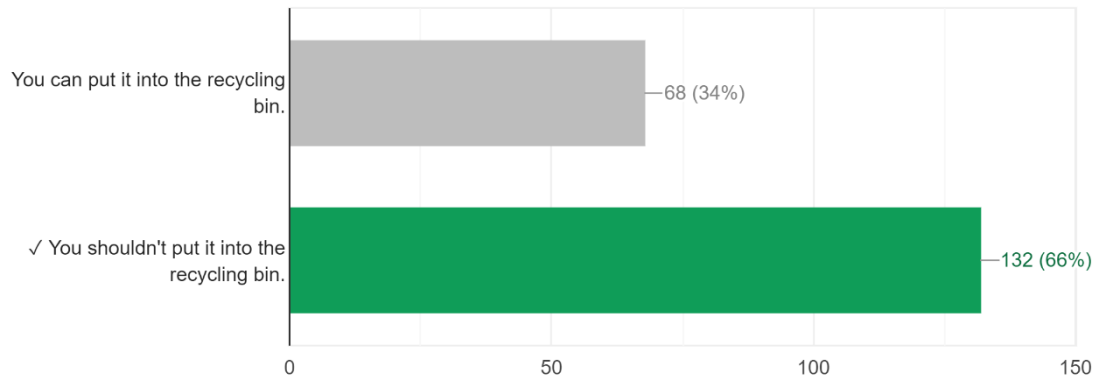
169 / 200 correct responses



Row 6: Plastic bottles and caps

What are the most common items that you can put into the recycling bin?

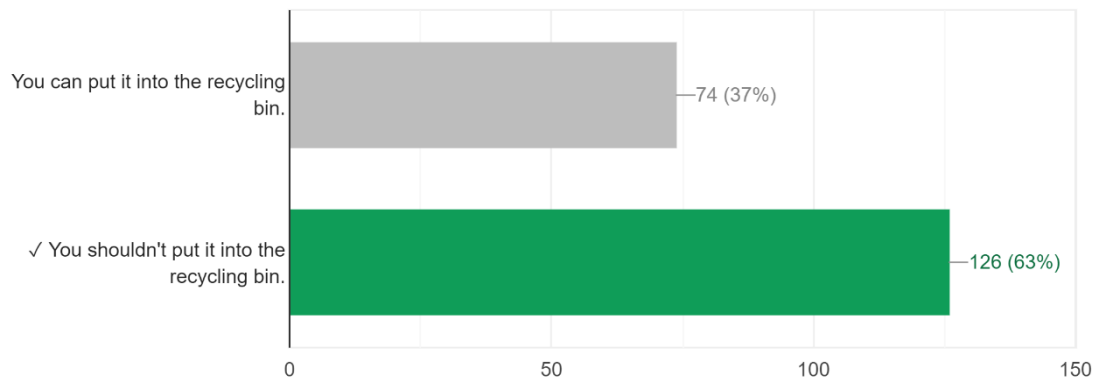
132 / 200 correct responses



Row 7: Syringes

What are the most common items that you can put into the recycling bin?

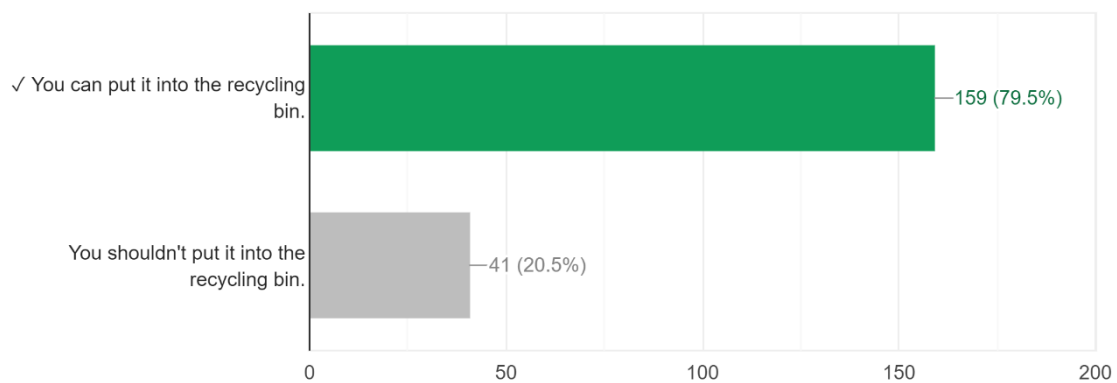
126 / 200 correct responses



Row 8: broken light bulb

What are the most common items that you can put into the recycling bin?

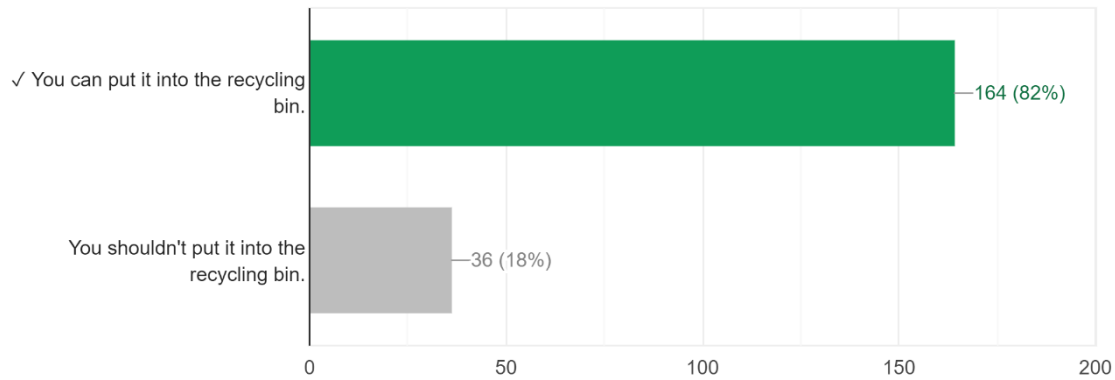
159 / 200 correct responses



Row 9: Cardboard

What are the most common items that you can put into the recycling bin?

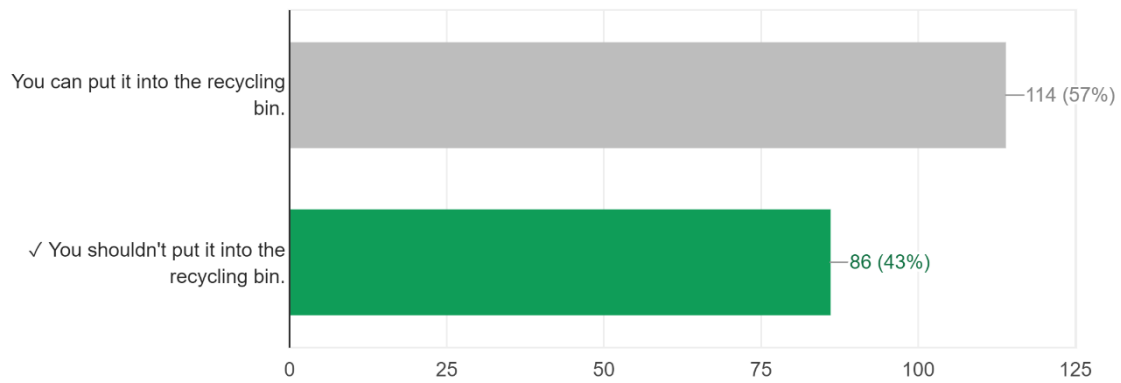
164 / 200 correct responses



Row 10: Beverage cans

What are the most common items that you can put into the recycling bin?

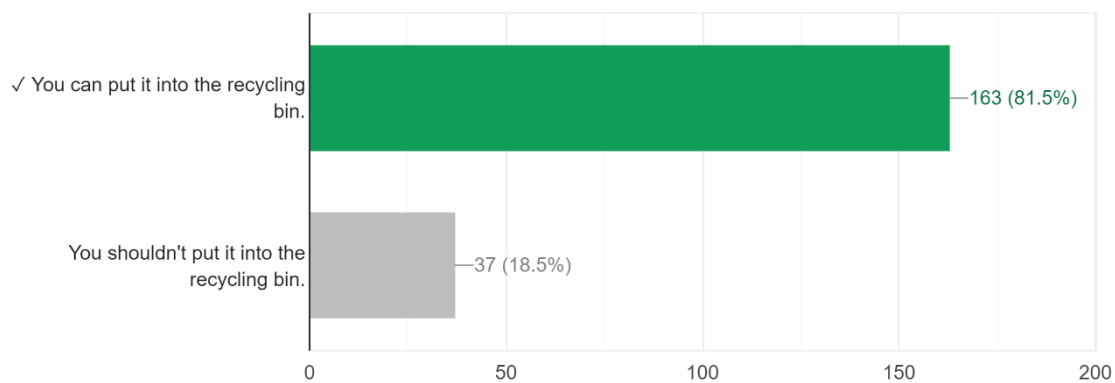
86 / 200 correct responses



Row 11: Paper towels

What are the most common items that you can put into the recycling bin?

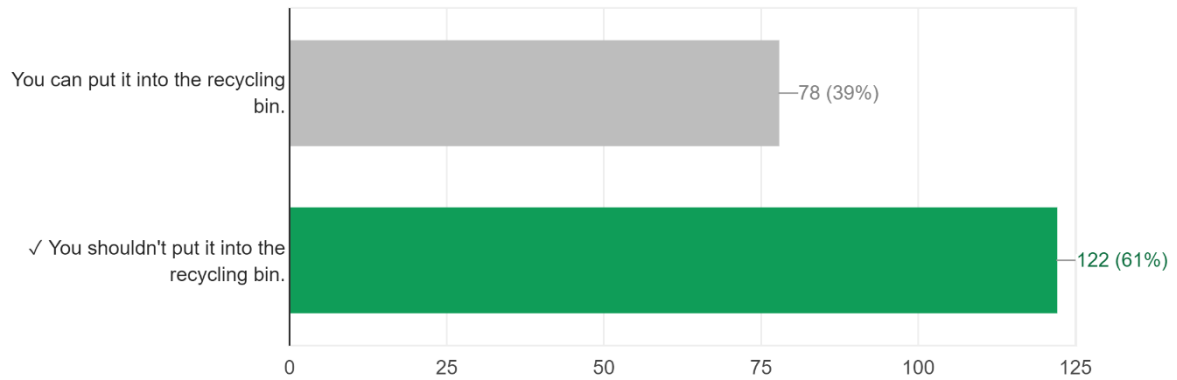
163 / 200 correct responses



Row 12: Newspaper and magazines

What are the most common items that you can put into the recycling bin?

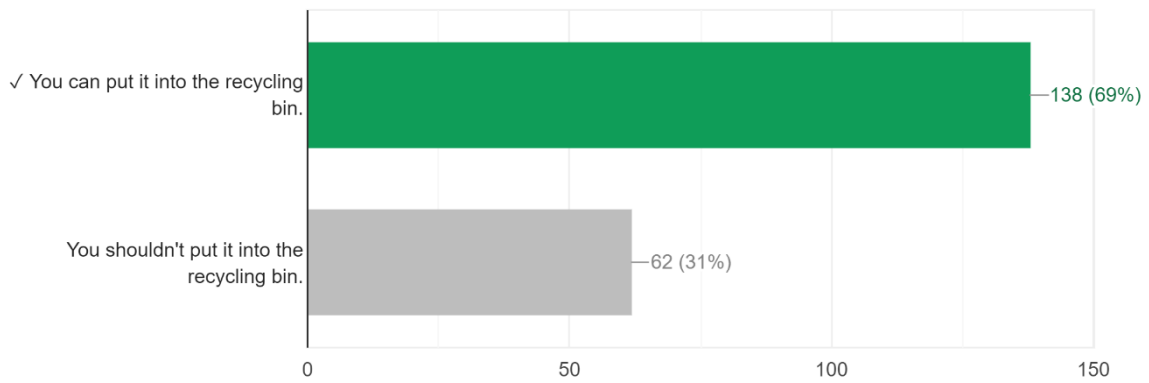
122 / 200 correct responses



Row 13: Tissues

What are the most common items that you can put into the recycling bin?

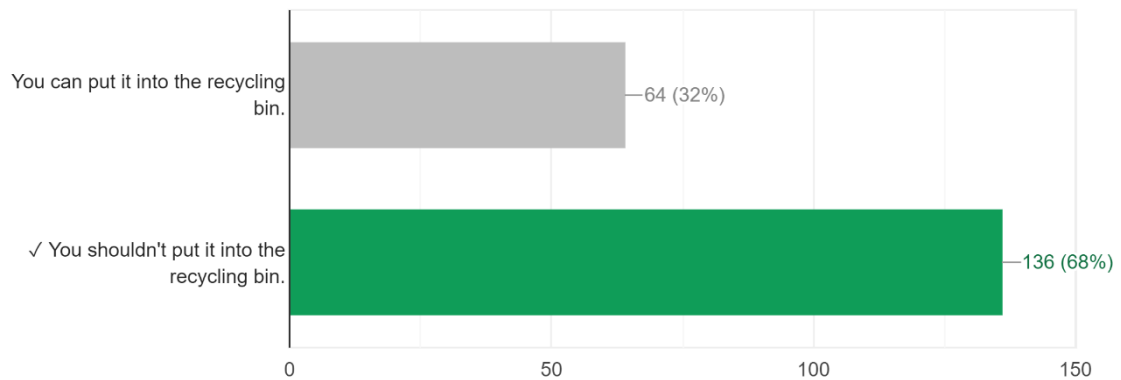
138 / 200 correct responses



Row 14: Clean takeaway containers

What are the most common items that you can put into the recycling bin?

136 / 200 correct responses

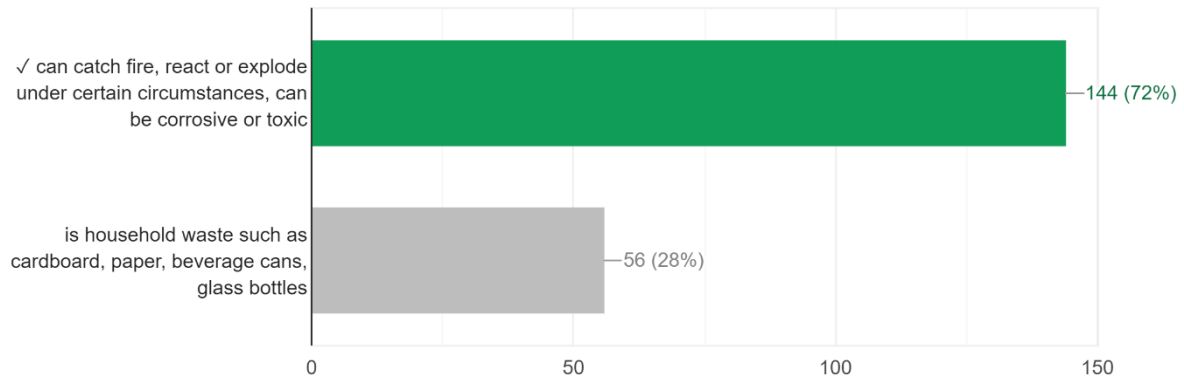


Row 15: Cables

Most of the respondents know the terms: hazardous waste, recycling, compost and grass cycling.

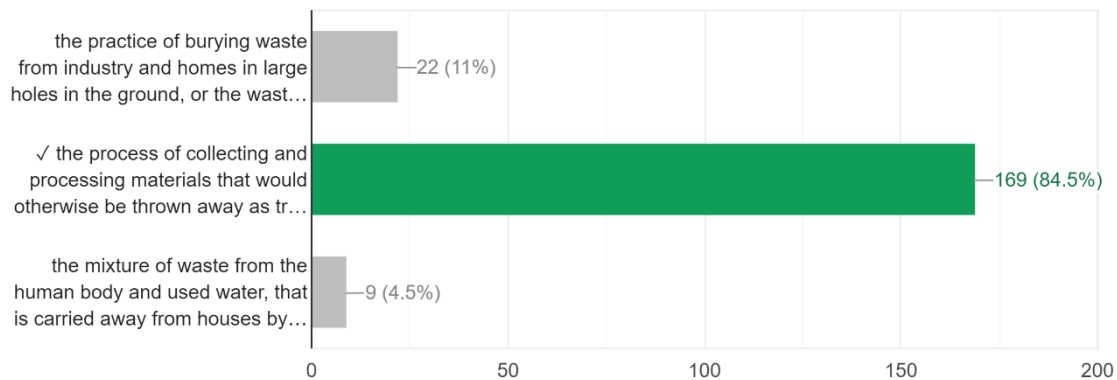
Household hazardous waste

144 / 200 correct responses



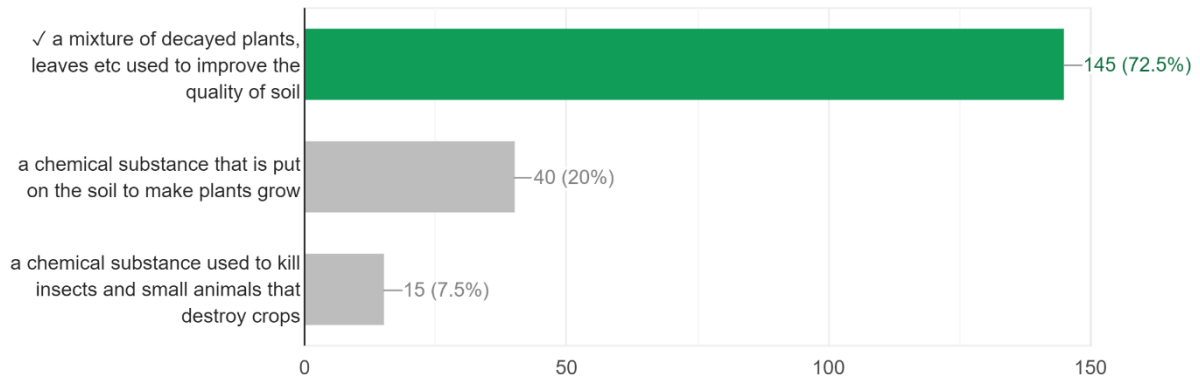
What is recycling?

169 / 200 correct responses



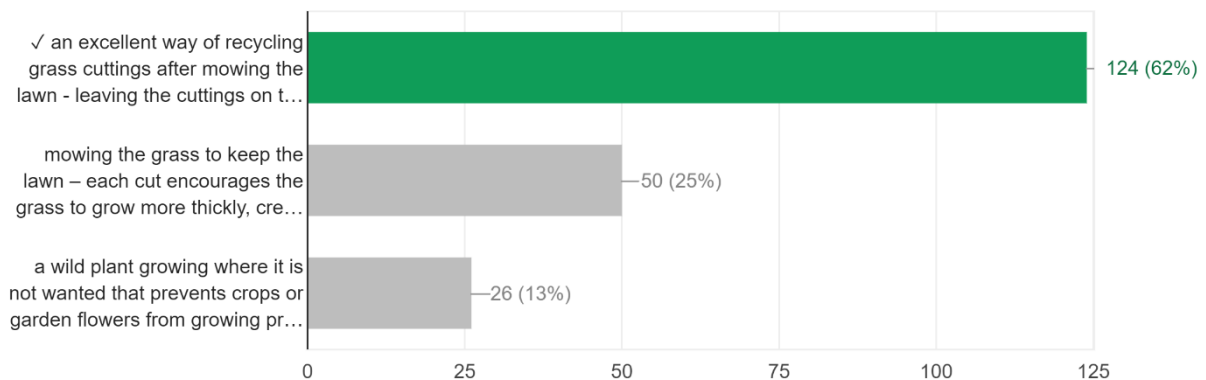
What is compost?

145 / 200 correct responses



What is grass cycling?

124 / 200 correct responses



Conclusions:

1. Incineration is the most unknown disposal technique for the respondents. It should be discussed during the project. Other effective and sustainable waste management techniques should also be discussed.
2. Reducing consumption, reusing food containers and buying locally made products should be promoted as ways of reducing the amount of waste (the lowest number of correct answers, less than 80 per cent).
3. Waste sorting should be discussed throughout the project. Just 45% of the respondents know that paper towels cannot be put into the recycling bin. Workshops, meetings and events should be organised to raise the level of awareness and knowledge about recycling and waste sorting.

4. Respondents are aware of the topic of recycling and waste management but they do not feel fully confident in the area. They lack knowledge (the question with paper towels) and awareness that our actions have serious consequences for the environment (overconsumption, not buying local products). The level of knowledge should be raised by organising workshops, environmental campaigns and preparing online materials that can be widely disseminated.