



# The Rubbish Detective – Possible Answers

This activity can be better done by groups with actual bags of rubbish to sift through.

If the children are using the lists, they should be asking questions about the content:

The heavily food related content might lead them to think of a kitchen but could also make them think more generally about diet. It is quite likely that the content will make them raise the question of re-cycling and it can also be used to make them think about differences in our food and the Romans. It is unlikely that the sauce was garum!

- Potato peelings
- Plastic bag with breadcrumbs in it
- Empty sauce bottle
- Broken mug
- Empty bottle of washing up liquid
- Egg shells

All of these items are likely to be found in a classroom. This can be used as a way to make them think about Roman education. What might have been found instead of crumpled paper? How would Roman have written? They might realise that what was on the paper might give more clues.

- Crumpled up paper
- Broken pencil
- Empty roll of sticky tape
- Crisp packets
- Torn sticker

Although all these items could belong to a child, they should realise that a lot more could be discovered with a bit more information. How big were the trainers? It could give a clue to the child's age. What style were they? That might help to know if it was a boy or a girl. What exactly had the teacher written? What was the toy?

- Old pair of trainers
- Worn out t-shirt
- Comics
- Letter from teacher
- Empty packet of sweets
- Homework with cola spilt on it
- Broken toy

In particular with this one, they should hopefully arrive at the fact that if they could see the bill, they could learn a lot more by seeing exactly what was being bought. They might also question what the magazine was.

- Bill from supermarket
- Wrapper from bar of chocolate
- Used tin of dog food
- Old magazine
- Broken comb

### Roman Rubbish

All the items mentioned have actually been found in Roman baths. People would eat while there and shellfish seem to have been particularly popular. The children might consider what else might be found there.

- Shells
- knucklebones from pigs
- coin
- broken jar with traces of oil
- chicken bones