**Lesson Title:** Litter Legends: Sorting for a Cleaner Planet

**Age Group:** Primary 4 (Ages 7–8)

**Curriculum Links (NI Curriculum):**

The World Around Us: Interdependence, Place, Change Over Time

Personal Development and Mutual Understanding: Health and Safety, Responsibility

Education for Sustainable Development

**Learning Objectives:**

By the end of the lesson, pupils will be able to:

* Understand the difference between recyclable and non-recyclable materials.
* Participate in a safe and responsible litter pick.
* Sort collected litter into recyclable and non-recyclable categories.
* Reflect on how they can help reduce waste in their community.

**Materials Needed:**

* Litter pickers (child-safe)
* Gloves (child-sized)
* High-visibility vests
* Two labelled bins: Recyclable and Non-Recyclable
* Sorting mat or table
* Whiteboard and markers

**Lesson Outline (Approx. 1 Hour):**

**1. Introduction (10 mins)**

Begin with a short discussion: “Why is litter a problem?”

Show examples of recyclable vs. non-recyclable items using picture cards.

Explain the activity and safety rules for the litter pick.

**2. Litter Pick Activity (20 mins)**

Go to a safe, supervised area (e.g., school grounds or nearby park).

Pupils work in pairs to collect litter using gloves and pickers.

Return to the classroom or designated sorting area.

**3. Sorting and Discussion (15 mins)**

Pupils sort the collected litter into Recyclable and Non-Recyclable.

Discuss why certain items go into each category.

Talk about how recycling helps the environment.

**4. Reflection and Wrap-Up (15 mins)**

Pupils draw or write one thing they learned.

Share ideas on how to reduce litter at school and home.

Optional: Create a class pledge to keep the environment clean.

**Extension Ideas:**

Create a recycling poster for the school – propose to student council/Eco Team

Invite a local council representative to talk about waste management.

Start a class recycling monitor rota.