

Name Date



FROM TRASH TO TREASURE

Each year, the United States produces enough trash to fill garbage trucks reaching halfway to the moon! How can we cut down on the trash that we create? One way is to reuse items instead of tossing them into the trash.

The chart below lists items that we often throw away. It also shows how long an item would take to break down, or disappear, once it's tossed in a landfill. Fill in the last column with your ideas on how to reuse the items. Draw or write your idea.

Object	How long it would take to disappear or break down in a landfill	One way I could reuse the item
Aluminum can	200 to 500 years	
Glass bottle	1 million years or more	
Plastic bag	1,000 years or more	
Paper bag	1 month	