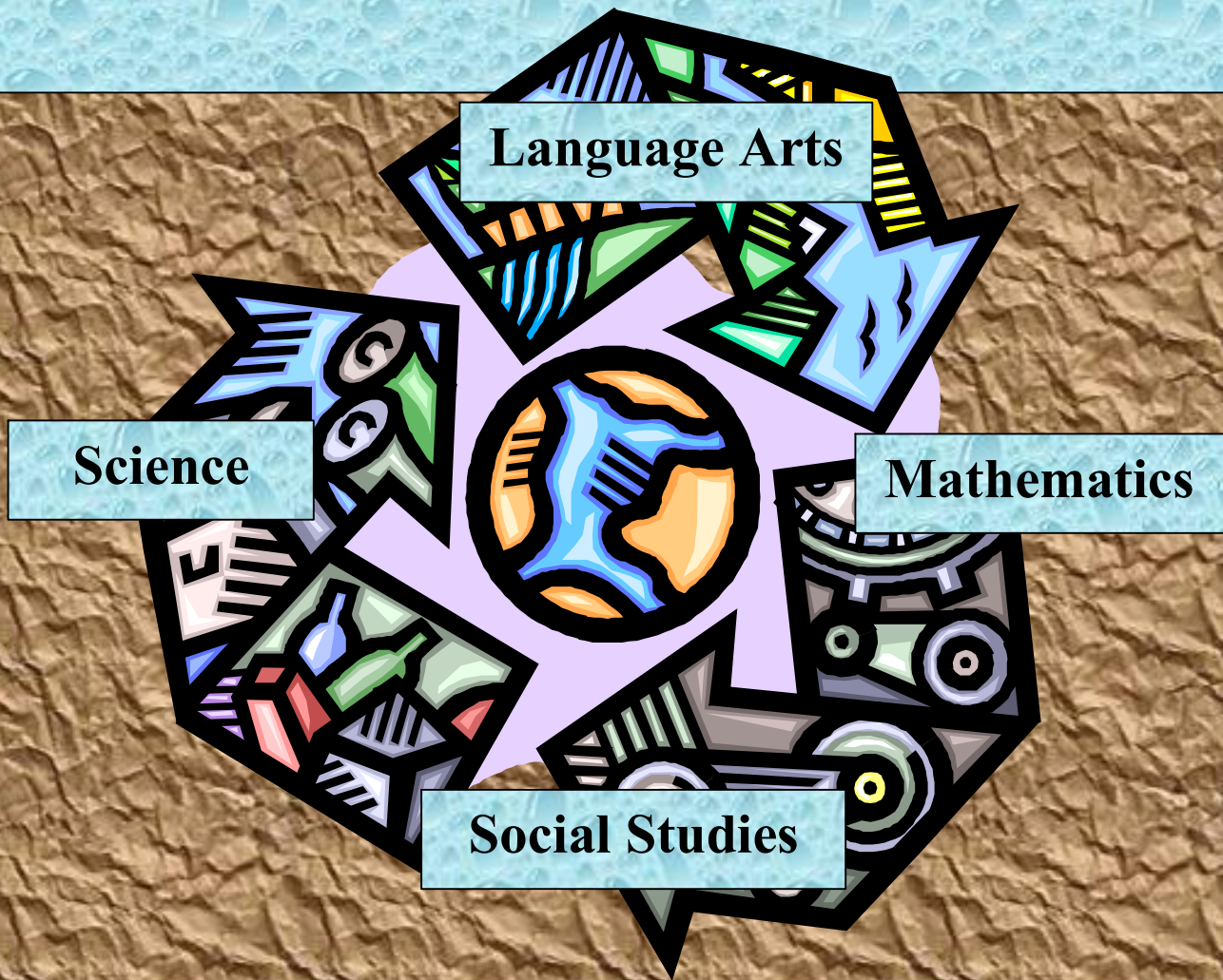


Garbology

A Thematic Unit about Trash

By Nancy L. Wilkinson



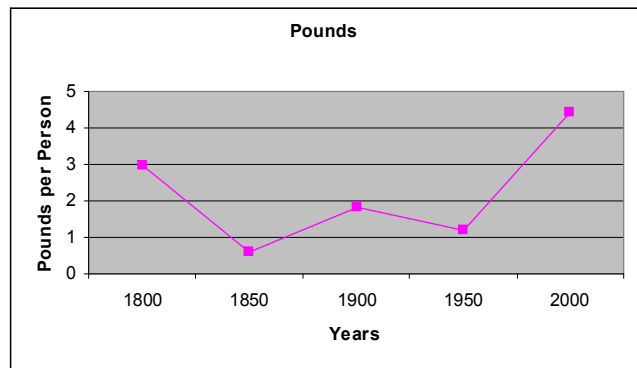
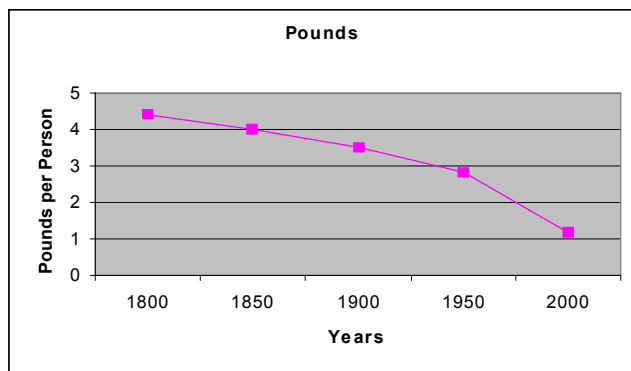
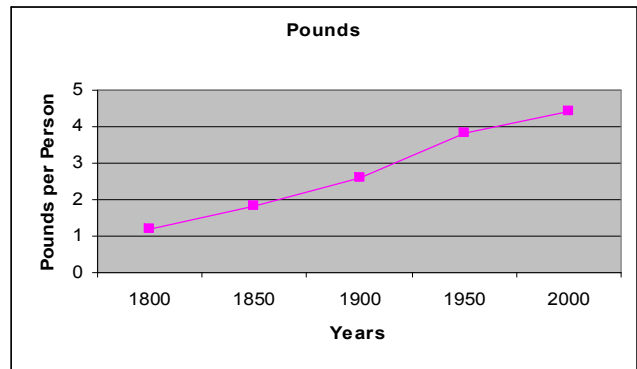
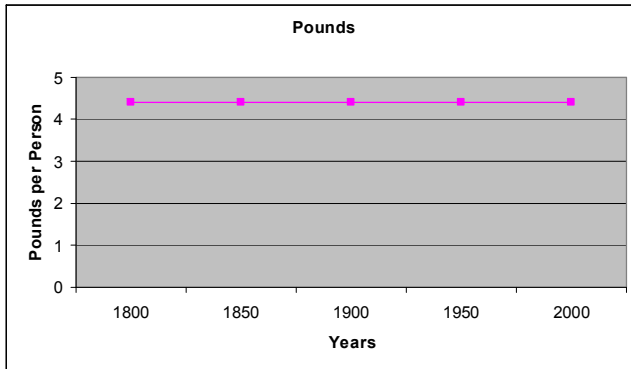
Lesson 8 Analyzing Line Graphs

Objective:

Students will discuss what they think a line graph showing the amount of trash thrown away over time might look like.

Materials:

Draw the following 4 line graphs on the board:



Opening:

Ask the class which graph they think best represents what really happened since 1800? Should there be a different graph? For example, would the graph be a bell shape?

Activity:

Students should discuss if they think the amount of trash we throw away is about the same amount, a lot less, a lot more or varies significantly. They should support their views. For example, a student might state that we throw away more trash now because everything is pre-made.

Closure:

Students might want to research the correct answer to this or look at the garbage trends of recent years. The Environmental Protection Agency at <http://www.epa.gov/osw/> has many statistics to explore.

