



Grocery Bag Message

Lesson Plan

Centered on the Three R's of Reduce, Reuse and Recycle

Grades: K-4. Please make changes to lessons as desired to fit the needs of your classroom.

Lesson Duration: 1-3 Days

Standards: See complete list at end of lesson.

Objectives:

- Students will use knowledge learned to communicate the importance of the Three R's - Reduce, Reuse, Recycle
- Students will reach out to the community by providing Three R awareness

Materials:

- Literature about reduce, reuse, and recycling with emphasis on reusing
- Paper bags from grocery store (one or more for each child)

Directions:

Speak with a local super market about having your class decorate some of their paper bags with recycling messages, return the decorated bags to the store and ask them to use them when bagging groceries.

Lesson:

1. Read/Research

Have students read your literature selection about subjects like recycling, trash, the environment, etc.

2. Look Around

Have students do a walk around the room to find items that can be reused to make something else. Students can make a list and share their ideas with the class.

What are some ways that we could reuse a paper bag from the super market? List student ideas. (Examples - book covers use to pick up trash along side of road or at a park, make a hat, put your shoes in them when you pack your suitcase, stuff a dog bed, use for packing when moving, make wrapping paper out of them, use them as drawing paper, shred and use as mulch, etc.)



3. Class Discussion

What are some other household items that we could reuse before throwing them away or recycling them? (Ideas: reuse plastic grocery bags at the store, or put them in small trash cans in the house. Reuse cardboard boxes for storage. Jars can be used in garages and workshops. Construct small projects with leftover lumber. Patch up holes in clothes and keep using, or use old clothes for rags. Cut-off old jeans to make shorts. Use styrofoam egg cartons to hold different color paints, small beads, googly eyes or pins. Use them to make a craft or to plant seedlings. Use newspapers to cover the table when you paint, or in gardens or Sunday comics as wrapping paper.)

4. Share With the Community

Let's share the importance of reusing and recycling with our community! Explain to the students that with the help of your local grocery store, you will be spreading the message of **The Three R's** with the community by decorating some paper bags. Explain that the decorated bags will be used to bag customer's groceries and since our bags will be going out into the community, we want show our very best work. It is suggested that the students make a practice copy first before designing their bags.

To help students send a clear, concise message. Optional criteria based on ability and or interest (teacher can assign levels or students can choose) is listed below:

Level 1: Label the Three R's, Draw a picture under each to depict what each word means

Level 2: Use a chart, diagram, graph or other pictorial to show the effects of the Three R's on the environment

Level 3: Include a recycling slogan and illustrate to support your slogan

Level 4: Student idea approved by teacher

Criteria for all bags:

- Correct spelling
- Neat handwriting
- Clear illustrations
- Clear message

5. Wrap It Up

Students share their finished products with one another. Deliver bags to local grocery store.

Let's have some more fun!

Reuse other household items to make things such as...musical instruments, make a hat out of a paper bag or newspaper, melt down broken crayons to make new ones or to use in a craft project, see Elmer's website for more ideas! www.elmersgluecrew.com.



This lesson adheres to the following National Education Standards:

Science

NS.K-4.1 Science as inquiry Abilities necessary to do scientific inquiry, Understanding about scientific inquiry

NS.K-4.2 Properties of objects and materials

NS.K-4.3 Life Sciences Characteristics of organisms, organisms and environments

NS.K-4.5 Science and Technology: Abilities to distinguish between natural objects and objects made by humans

NS.K-4.6 Personal and Social Perspectives: Characteristics and changes in populations, types of resources, changes in environments

English

NL.Eng-K-12.3 Evaluation Strategies Students apply a wide range of strategies to comprehend, interpret, evaluate, and appreciate texts.

NL.Eng-K-12.4 Communication Skills Students adjust their use of spoken, written, and visual language (e.g., conventions, style, vocabulary) to communicate effectively to variety of audiences.

NL.Eng-K-12.5 Communication Strategies Students employ a wide range of strategies as they write and use different writing process elements appropriately to communicate

NL.Eng-K-12.6 Students apply knowledge of language structure, language conventions (e.g., spelling and punctuation), media techniques, figurative language, and genre to create, critique, and discuss print and non-print texts.

NL.Eng-K-12.7 Evaluating Data Students conduct research on issues and interests by generating ideas and questions, and by posing problems.

Visual Arts

NA-VA.K-4.3 Choosing and evaluating a range of subject matter, symbols and ideas