



The Recycling Process: Become an Expert

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 outline the steps in the recycling process
- Students will create a product that illustrates the steps of the recycling process
- Students will explain the steps of the recycling process

Materials:

- Compile media resources such as books and Internet sites centered around the steps in the recycling process
- Brown paper lunch sacks (optional)
- Elmer's School Glue
- Elmer's 3D Glitter Glue Paint Pens
- Elmer's Foam Board

Lesson:

- Before Reading -
Depending on grade level; choose vocabulary to introduce the recycling process, such as: Waste, Compost, Reuse, Recycle, Separate, Collect, Remake, Market.
- Read or show media selection
- After Reading -
 1. Ask students to summarize orally what they have learned.
Discuss sequence of the recycling process.
Such as: 1. Collect 2. Separate 3. Remake 4. Market 5. Reuse
 2. Recycling Process -- Retold
Ask each student to focus on the steps of recycling and choose one of the following exercises to show their understanding. Adapt as necessary to fit your grade level. When completing their product, they should write as if their audience has no knowledge of the steps in the recycling process, so they should be detailed in their explanation.



2. Recycling Process -- Retold (continued)

Exercise 1: Make a comic strip, using speech bubbles, and made up character(s) of student's choice to describe the steps in the recycling process.

Exercise 2: Use a piece of Elmer's foam board and various art and crafts items, like 3D paint pens, to design a poster that depicts the steps in the recycling process.

3. Wrap it Up

Play Fact or Fib. Make a true or false statement about the recycling process. Students decide if the statement is a fact or fib. Students give thumbs up if they think the statement is a fact or thumbs down if they think it's a fib.

For example - Fact or Fib: "Recycling is a simple one-step process." Answer: Fib.

Find fun poetry for kids centered on garbage, and recycling and read to entire class, or break students into small groups and have them read to each other.

Role Play the recycling process in the classroom using information found in the resource materials you compiled. Set up role play areas in the classroom.

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 Physical Science: Properties of objects and materials

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

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

Language Arts

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.