



RECYCLING STUDENT ACTIVITY BOOK

This booklet contains information and activities for students who desire to learn about waste reduction, waste diversion, reuse, recycling, composting and buying recycled goods to complete the recycling loop.

## LESSONS AND RECYCLING ACTIVITIES

Please evaluate each activity to determine if it fits your grade level

### **REFERENCE MATERIALS**

- Suggested Reading List
- Vocabulary Words
- Web Resources & Social Media
- Reduce, Reuse, & Recycle Facts...“Did you know...?”
- Guide to Raw Materials: “To Make A Ton, You Would Need”
- Trash to treasure: What’s In Your Garbage Toter?

### **ACTIVITY PAGES**

- “I think...”
- Math Problems-find the coded message
- Sort, Recycle and Save\*
- Matching Game\*
- Crossword Puzzle
- Word Search
- Word Jumble/Anagram game
- “How Long will it Last”

### **STEPS AND SOLUTIONS TO SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE RECYCLING**

- Ten (10) suggestions on how to Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, & Repurpose
- Immediate Actions to take and suggest at home!

*\*Activity involves the use of scissors or cutting implements, and adhesive, adult supervision is suggested*



### **Suggested Reading List**

There are many great books available for students to read on recycling. The following list is but a few of the many available good, informative materials. We do not suggest nor endorse any one book over another.

***50 Simple Things Kids Can Do To Save The Earth***, John Javna. Andrews and McMeel, Published 1990. Explains how specific things in a child's environment are connected, how using things affects the planet and how kids can help our environment.

***Arnold Grummer's Complete Guide to Easy Papermaking***. Arnold Grummer. Published 1999

***Reduce, Reuse, Recycle: An Easy Household Guide***. Nicky Scott. Published 2007

***Backyard Composting: Your Complete Guide to Recycling Yard Clippings***. John Roulac. Published 1997

***Crafts from Recyclables : Great Ideas from throwaways***. Colleen Van Blaricom(Editor), Ron Lehew (Illustrator). Published 1992

***Dinosaurs and Other Fun Things : Recycling, Dinosaurs, Mines, Icebergs***  
(Lowly Worm's How, Where, & Why Books). Richard Scarry. Published 1997

***Earth-Friendly Holidays: How to Make Fabulous Gifts and Decorations from Reusable Objects***. George Pfiffner. Published 1995

***Garbage and Recycling (Young Discoverers)***. Rosie Harlow, Sally Morgan (Contributor) Published 1995

*Here Comes the Recycling Truck!* Meyer Seltzer, Judith Mathews (Editor). Published 1992

*The Lorax*, Dr. Seuss, Random House, Published 1971. This book shows what happens when we deplete out natural resources.

*Recycle : A Handbook for Kids* . Gail Gibbons. Published 1996

*Recyclopedia : Games, Science Equipment, and Crafts from Recycled Materials*. Robin Simons. Published 1976

*Sir Johnny's Recycling Adventure*. Rachel Paulson. Crestmont Publishing.

*Tin Can Papermaking : Recycle for Earth and Art*. Arnold E. Grummer, Spencer Rotzel (Illustrator). Published 1993

*Use Less Stuff: Environmental Solutions for Who We Really Are*.  
Robert M. Lilienfeld, William L. Rathje. Published 1998

*What Happens To Garbage?* Rona Beame. New York: Julian Messner, Published 1975.  
Shows Manhattan sanitation workers, waste hauling, recycling and energy recovery.

*Where Does the Garbage Go?* (Let's-Read-And-Find-Out Science, Stage 2). Paul Showers, et al. Published 1994

*Worms Eat Our Garbage : Classroom Activities for a Better Environment*.  
Mary Appelhof, et al. Published 1993

## VOCABULARY WORDS

**Biodegradable** (adjective) - material that is able to be broken down naturally by microorganisms into simple, stable compounds.

**BTU** (British Thermal Unit) - A measurement of the amount of heat needed to raise the temperature of one pound of water by one degree Fahrenheit at or near 39.2 degrees F.

**Buy Recycled** (concept) - Purchasing products and packaging made from post-consumer materials.

**Compost** (noun) - Decayed organic materials which decompose into humus.

**Contamination** (noun)- process by which something is made impure.

**Decompose** (verb) - To break down, change form by the action of living things or microorganisms.

**Environment** (noun)- The natural world around us, including the air, water, land, animal, plants, etc.

**Landfill** (noun) - a secure site for the environmentally sound burial of solid waste.

**Litter** (noun, can also be a verb) - is unsightly, unsanitary, unappealing, can be hazardous and degrades the quality of our lives by degrading the environment. Litter is generated by many sources including:

Improper garbage collection - blowing garbage and spillage during collection.

Uncovered or inadequately covered trucks and other vehicles transporting materials.

Illegal disposal of solid waste.

Pedestrians discarding trash

Motorists discarding trash.

**Microorganism** (noun) - Organisms that are too small to be seen with the naked eye.

**Natural Resources** (noun) - naturally occurring items such as plants, animals, minerals, water, air, etc. which can be used to help make things for people.

**Earth Day** - (proper noun) a day in April (celebrated April 22) designated for promoting concern for the environment.

**Organic** (adjective) - derived from living organisms, or having a carbon base.

**Pre-Consumer** (adjective) - describing materials that are diverted from the waste stream that are generated during manufacturing.

**Pollution** (noun) - harmful substances deposited in the air, water or land which leads to impurity or unhealthfulness.

**Post-Consumer** (adjective) - describing materials that are collected for recycling after having been purchased by a consumer, that would have otherwise gone to a landfill or incinerator.

**Reduce** (verb) - preventing or not making waste.

**Reuse** (verb) - using something over and over again.

**Recycle** (verb) - to make new products or packaging from used materials.

**Returnable Container** (noun) - a beverage container able to be returned for a money deposit.

**Waste** (noun) - garbage or other material that is not used anymore.

**Waste Stream** (noun) - The entire process that solid waste goes through from generation to disposal or recycling.

**Yard Waste** (noun) - leaves, grass clippings and other organic materials that are collected from yards.

# Social Media

*The following information on social media is merely suggestive, and by no means, does the NSWRA endorse, advertise, or have any controlling interest in any content.*

## Web Pages, Resources, & Social Media

<b>On Twitter follow</b>		
@WasteDive		
@kabtweet		
@bewastewise		
@plasticnews		
@CalRecycle		
@GuardianSustBiz		
@EarthDayNetwork		
<b>Web Sites &amp; Social Media Organizations</b>		
America Recycles Day	<a href="http://www.americarecyclesday.org">www.americarecyclesday.org</a>	Initiative of Keep America Beautiful-recycling event organizing and where to recycling items
A Bags Life	<a href="http://www.abagslife.com">www.abagslife.com</a>	Teaching/learning about recycling bags
Children of the Earth	<a href="http://www.childrenoftheearth.org">www.childrenoftheearth.org</a>	EarthDay activities, Recycling, & Energy education
Connecticut D.E.E.P. (Dept. of Energy & Environmental Protection)	<a href="http://www.ct.gov/deep">www.ct.gov/deep</a>	Recycling laws, information and policy affecting Connecticut residents & businesses
Earth Day	<a href="http://www.earthday.org">www.earthday.org</a>	International environmental policy organization
Enviro-Access	<a href="http://www.enviroaccess.ca">www.enviroaccess.ca</a>	Sustainability and carbon footprint auditing
Environmental Education	<a href="http://www.cancentral.com">www.cancentral.com</a>	Can Manufacturing Institute Recycling & Sustainability
Environmental Defense Fund	<a href="http://www.edf.org">www.edf.org</a>	Environmental/sustainability/ecosystems/policy
Environmental Protection Agency	<a href="http://www.epa.gov/students/">www.epa.gov/students/</a>	Enhance knowledge and critical thinking skills regarding environmental education
Environmental Protection Agency	<a href="http://www.epa.gov/recyclecity/">www.epa.gov/recyclecity/</a>	Interactive Games & activities exploring recycling and way to reduce waste
Keep America Beautiful	<a href="http://www.kab.org">www.kab.org</a>	Educate and engage the public re. recycling, impact, job creation
K.A.B. in partnership with corporate enterprises	<a href="http://www.iwanttoberecycled.org">www.iwanttoberecycled.org</a>	Interactive recycling education and information website
National Insitute of Health	<a href="http://www.kids.niehs.nih.gov">www.kids.niehs.nih.gov</a>	Educational materials, songs, materials related to environment, science & health
Resource Recycling Systems	<a href="http://www.recycle.com">www.recycle.com</a>	Resource recycling/recovery management
WGBH/National Public Radio	<a href="http://www.meetthegreens.org">www.meetthegreens.org</a>	Student environmental interactive

## Social Media Sites by Category

### ***Communication***

[Facebook](#), [MySpace](#), [LinkedIn](#), [Twitter](#), [Blogger](#), [Foursquare](#)

### ***Collaboration***

[Digg](#), [Reddit](#), [StumbleUpon](#), [Delicious](#)

### ***Multimedia***

[Flickr](#), [YouTube](#), [Vimeo](#), [Ustream](#)

### ***Other***

widgets, podcasts, applications, RSS feeds, buttons/badges, mobile websites

## Did you know?

### ***Recycling Steel Saves....***



- ✚ All steel products are 100% recyclable.
- ✚ Recycling one pound of steel saves enough energy to light a 60-watt light bulb for 26 hours.
- ✚ Recycling one ton of steel saves 2500 lbs. of iron ore, 1000 lbs. of coal and 40 lbs. of limestone.
- ✚ Recycling steel saves 40% of water used to make steel from ores.
- ✚ Recycling steel reduces air pollution by 86% and reduces water pollution by 76%.
- ✚ Steel cans take 80-100 years to decompose.
- ✚ 85%-90% of the steel used today is recycled.



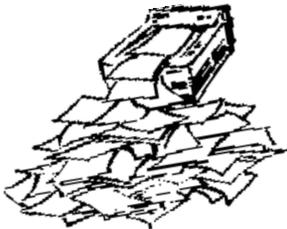
### ***Recycling Aluminum Saves....***

- ✚ Recycling aluminum reduces energy use by 90%.
- ✚ Energy saved from recycling one aluminum can will run a TV for three hours.
- ✚ Recycling one aluminum can saves the energy equivalent of one cup of gasoline.
- ✚ Recycling aluminum reduces air pollution by 95%.
- ✚ An aluminum can takes 200-500 years to decompose.
- ✚ Each pound of aluminum makes 32 cans.

## ***Recycling Plastic Saves....***



- + Recycling plastic saves twice as much energy as burning it in an incinerator.
- + Americans throw away 25,000,000,000 Styrofoam coffee cups every year.
- + Plastic bags and other plastic garbage thrown into the ocean kill as many as 1,000,000 sea creatures every year!
- + Americans use 2,500,000 plastic bottles every hour! Most of them are thrown away!
- + It takes 5 recycled two-liter PET bottles to make one square foot of carpet.
- + PET bottles and containers are actually a form of polyester, which is why it is so easy to recycle bottles into T-shirts, sweaters and socks.
- + It takes thirty-five (35) two-liter recycled PET bottles to make the soft filling inside a sleeping bag, called "fiberfill."
- + About 1,200 recycled soda bottles could carpet the average living room.



## ***Recycling Paper Saves....***

- + Every ton of paper recycled saves 380 gallons of oil.
- + Recycling one ton of paper saves 17 trees.
- + The 17 trees saved (above) can absorb a total of 250 lbs. of carbon dioxide from the air each year. Burning that same ton of paper would create 1500 lbs. of carbon dioxide.
- + Recycling paper reduces air pollution by 74%.
- + Recycling paper reduces water pollution by 35%.

## ***paper (cont'd)...***



- ✚ You use on average, 580 pounds of paper each year.
- ✚ The typical office worker throws away 180 pounds of high grade recyclable paper every year.
- ✚ Over 500,000 trees are used to supply Americans with their Sunday newspapers every week.
- ✚ Recycling a single run of the Sunday New York Times would save 75,000 trees.
- ✚ If all our newspaper was recycled, we could save about 250,000,000 trees each year!
- ✚ If every American recycled just one-tenth of their newspapers, we could save about 25,000,000 trees a year!
- ✚ Paper takes about a month to decompose.

## ***Recycling Glass Saves....***



- ✚ Glass is 100% recyclable.
- ✚ Approximately 41 billion glass containers are produced in the United States each year.
- ✚ Recycling one glass bottle saves enough energy to light 100-watt bulb for four hours.
- ✚ Recycling a ton of glass saves the equivalent of nine gallons of fuel oil.
- ✚ Since glass does not degrade, a bottle thrown in a landfill today, would still be around in the year 3000.
- ✚ Each glass container produced in the US contains, on the average, 30% recycled glass.

## ***Composting Saves....***

- # Yard waste (leaves & grass) make up approximately 20 percent of the waste stream or approximately, 230 pounds per person per year.
- # Food waste make up approximately nine percent (9%) of the waste stream or about 100 lbs. per person per year.
- # Composting Improves the Soil.
- # Composting prevents fertilizer runoff.
- # Significantly reduces waste disposal costs through organics waste recycling.



### **Reduce, Reuse, Recycle,**



### **Repurpose & Compost**

**In order to:**

**Save**

**Energy  
Landfill Space &  
Natural Resources**

### **Buying Recycled....**

**Closes the “Loop” so that we actually use the products and packaging that are made from recycled materials!**

## TO Make a Ton, You Would Need

Making a ton of something equaling 2,000 pounds takes a lot of materials. We can use either raw materials or recycled materials to make the same items. By looking at the difference between two ways of making the same thing, we can learn how our environment is helped or hurt by our decisions.

### To Make a Ton of Paper

#### We Use These Raw Materials

3,688 pounds of wood

216 pounds of lime

360 pounds of salt cake

76 pounds of soda ash

24,000 gallons of water

28 million BTUs of energy

#### We Would Have to Treat and Dispose of;

84 pounds of air pollutants  
36 pounds of water pollutants  
176 pounds of solid waste

#### Resources Saved by Recycling One Ton of Newspaper

- Is the equivalent of one ton of paper made from about 17 trees.
- Conserves two to three cubic yards of landfill space.



### To Make a Ton of Glass

#### We Use These Raw Materials

1,330 pounds of sand

433 pounds of soda ash

433 pounds of limestone

151 pounds of feldspar

#### We Would Have to Treat and Dispose of;

384 pounds of mining wastes  
8 pounds of air pollutants

#### Resources Saved by Recycling Glass:

If we use a mixture of 1/2 recycled glass and 1/2 raw materials, we reduce

- Water consumption by 50 percent.
- Mining wastes by 79 percent.
- Air pollutants by 14 percent.



## To Make One Ton of Aluminum

### We Would Use These Raw Materials

8,766 pounds of bauxite  
1,020 pounds of petroleum coke  
966 pounds of soda ash  
238 pounds of lime  
197 million BTUs of energy

### We Would Have To Treat & Dispose Of:

3,290 pounds of red mud  
2,900 pounds of carbon dioxide  
81 pounds of air pollution  
789 pounds of solid waste

### Resources Saved by Recycling Aluminum

Recycling Aluminum reduces:

- Water consumption by 95 percent.
- Energy use by 95 percent.
- Air pollution by 95 percent.



## To Make A Ton of Steel:

### We Use These Raw Materials:

1,970 pounds of iron ore  
791 pounds of petroleum coke  
454 pounds of lime



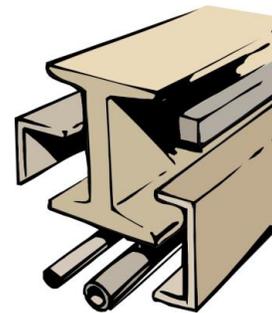
### We Would Have to Treat and Dispose of

538 pounds of solid wastes  
42 pounds of air pollutants

### Resources Saved by Recycling Steel

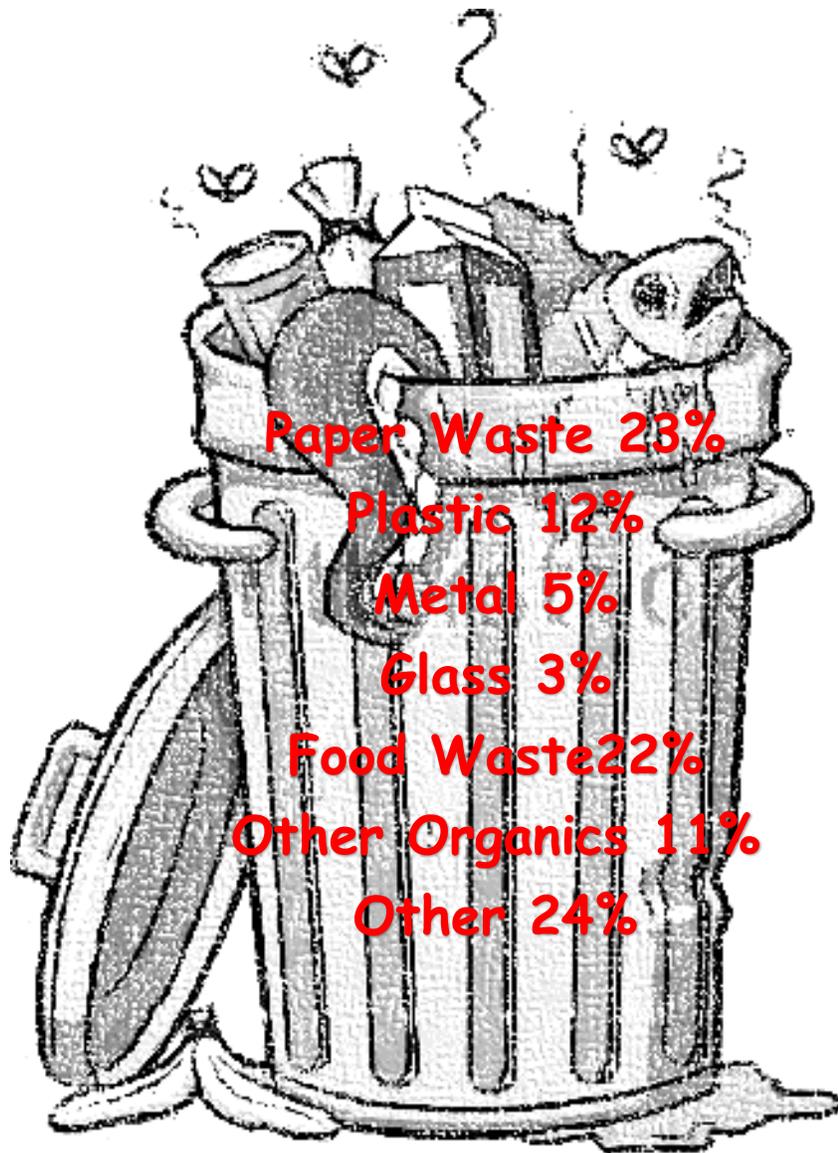
Recycling steel reduces:

- Energy consumption by 74 percent.
- Air pollutants by 86 percent.
- Water used by 40 percent.
- Water pollutants by 76 percent.



TRASH TO TREASURE

Before recycling, the average garbage totter, in New Haven, is comprised of the below materials. You should note, many of those materials can and should be recycled (including "other" which includes, construction demolition debris & electronics).



**I think...**

1. The best thing about recycling is \_\_\_\_\_

2. I recycle \_\_\_\_\_

3. I wish I could recycle \_\_\_\_\_

4. Throwing away recyclables is \_\_\_\_\_

5. Learning about recycling is \_\_\_\_\_

6. My favorite thing to recycle is \_\_\_\_\_

7. My school recycles \_\_\_\_\_

8. Sometimes recycling is hard because \_\_\_\_\_

9. I promise not to litter because  
\_\_\_\_\_

10. Other things I do to help my environment are  
\_\_\_\_\_

### Math - The Coded Message!

Solve the problem, then find the letter in the key that matches the answer and solve the coded message.

$$24 + 34 = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}i$$

$$16 + 16 = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}k$$

$$33 + 32 = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}n$$

$$19 + 3 = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}o$$

$$42 + 21 = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}c$$

$$11 + 7 = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}f$$

$$17 + 22 = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}g$$

$$53 + 39 = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}t$$

$$47 + 26 = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}u$$

$$53 - 38 = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}l$$

$$91 - 39 = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}d$$

$$77 - 65 = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}e$$

$$91 - 15 = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}p$$

$$34 - 15 = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}r$$

$$88 - 41 = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}s$$

$$52 - 25 = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}a$$

$$72 - 31 = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}b$$

$$63 - 47 = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}y$$

52	22	65	92	18	22	19	39	12	92	92	22
41	73	16	19	12	63	16	63	15	12	52	
76	19	22	52	73	63	92	47	!!!			

## Math - The Coded Message! Answers

$$\begin{array}{r} 24 + 34 = \underline{\quad} 58 \\ 16 + 16 = \underline{\quad} 32 \\ 33 + 32 = \underline{\quad} 65 \\ 19 + 3 = \underline{\quad} 22 \\ 42 + 21 = \underline{\quad} 63 \\ 11 + 7 = \underline{\quad} 18 \\ 17 + 22 = \underline{\quad} 39 \\ 53 + 39 = \underline{\quad} 92 \\ 47 + 26 = \underline{\quad} 73 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 53 - 38 = \underline{\quad} 15 \\ 91 - 39 = \underline{\quad} 52 \\ 77 - 65 = \underline{\quad} 12 \\ 91 - 15 = \underline{\quad} 76 \\ 34 - 15 = \underline{\quad} 19 \\ 88 - 41 = \underline{\quad} 47 \\ 52 - 25 = \underline{\quad} 27 \\ 72 - 31 = \underline{\quad} 41 \\ 63 - 47 = \underline{\quad} 16 \end{array}$$

$\frac{D}{52}$   $\frac{O}{22}$   $\frac{N}{65}$   $\frac{T}{92}$      $\frac{F}{18}$   $\frac{O}{22}$   $\frac{R}{19}$   $\frac{G}{39}$   $\frac{E}{12}$   $\frac{T}{92}$      $\frac{T}{92}$   $\frac{O}{22}$

$\frac{B}{41}$   $\frac{U}{73}$   $\frac{Y}{16}$      $\frac{R}{19}$   $\frac{E}{12}$   $\frac{C}{63}$   $\frac{Y}{16}$   $\frac{C}{63}$   $\frac{L}{15}$   $\frac{E}{12}$   $\frac{D}{52}$

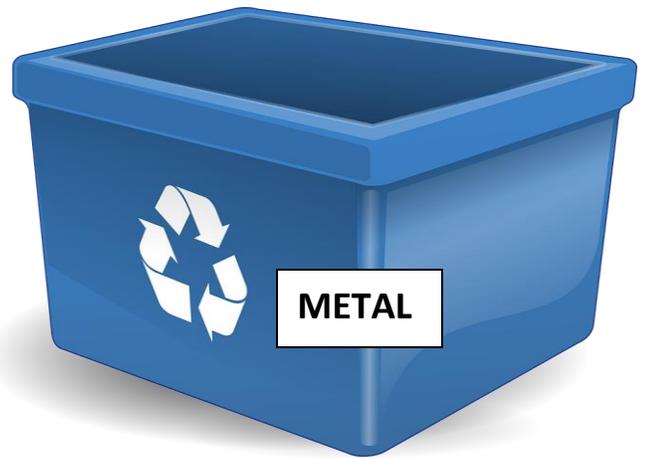
$\frac{P}{76}$   $\frac{R}{19}$   $\frac{O}{22}$   $\frac{D}{52}$   $\frac{U}{73}$   $\frac{C}{63}$   $\frac{T}{92}$   $\frac{S}{47}$

Don't forget to buy recycled products!!

# Sort, Recycle, Save!

Color the item in each box. Then cut them out and paste them into the proper location on the next page!





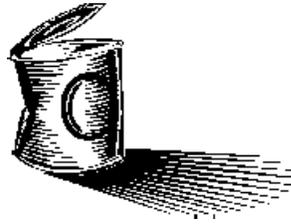
# Sort, Recycle, Save! Answer Sheet



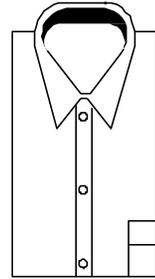
Compost Bin



Glass Recycling



Metal Recycling



Thrift Store



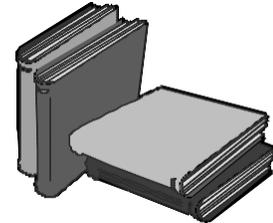
Metal Recycling



Paper Recycling



Plastic Recycling



Thrift Store



Paper Recycling



Plastic Recycling



Compost Bin



Paper Recycling



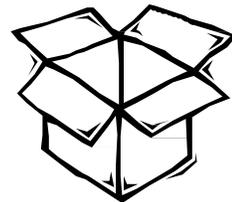
Compost Bin



Thrift Store



Compost Bin



Paper Recycling

Cut Out the Boxes and Match the Raw Material with the Product and paste them in to the boxes on the next page.



**Cut and paste the raw materials on the left and the matching products on the right!**

<b>Raw Materials</b>	<b>Products</b>

## Answers to the Matching Game

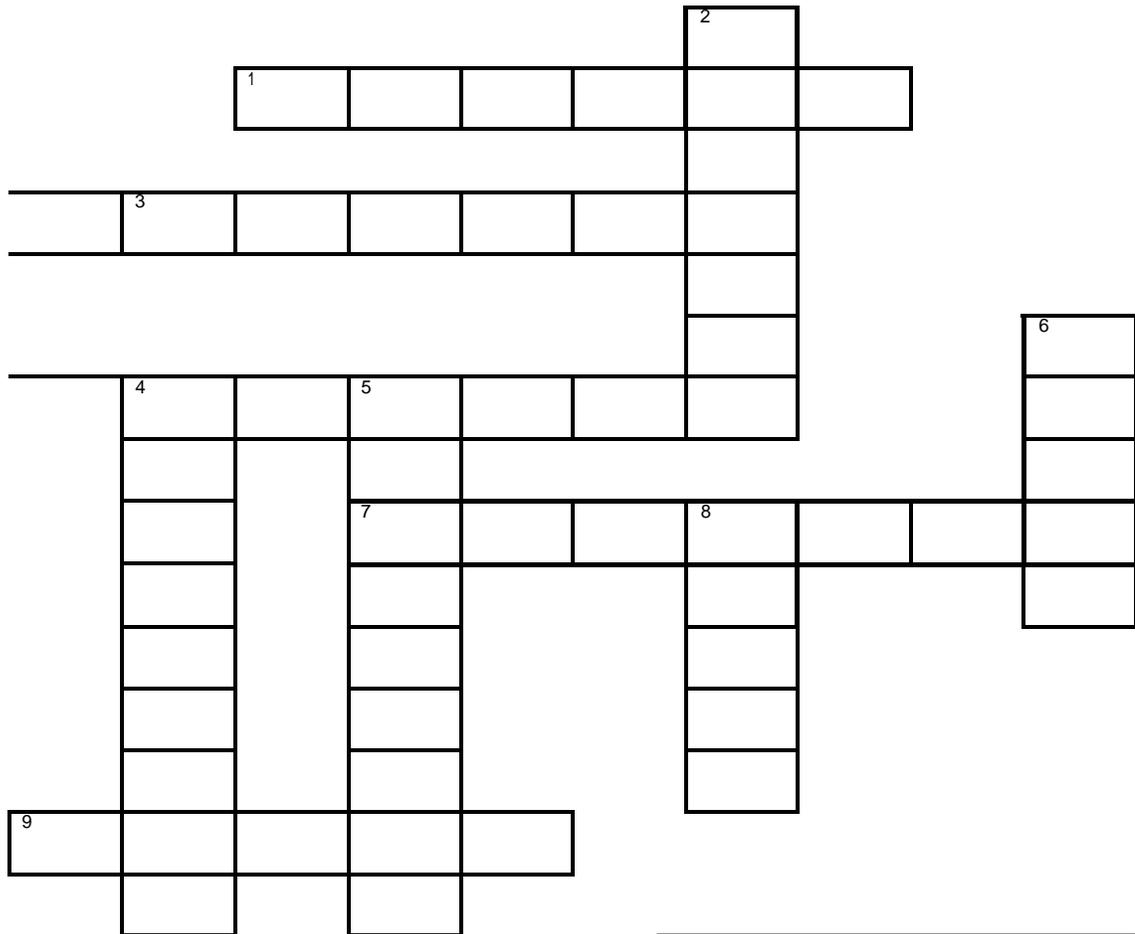
	
	
	
	

Paper comes from trees.  
Plastics come from oil.  
Metals come from ores.  
Glass comes from sand.

But remember....

Paper can come from recycled paper,  
Plastics can come from recycled plastic containers,  
Steel and aluminum can come from recycled metals, and  
Glass can come from recycled glass!!

## Crossword Puzzle



### Across

1. Trash discarded along roads, shorelines and other places.
3. When we recycle, we save \_\_\_\_\_.
4. To not make garbage to begin with.
7. Leaves, grass clippings and fruit and vegetable wastes.
9. Touse something over and over again.

### Word List

Compost	Reduce
Decompose	Reuse
Energy	Recycle
Litter	Resources
Paper	Waste

### Down

2. Take materials that would otherwise be waste and turning it into something new.
4. When we recycled we save our natural \_\_\_\_\_.
5. When materials compost, they \_\_\_\_\_.
6. Things we throw in a garbage can.
8. We throw away a lot of this every day.



## Word Search

R	E	K	L	R	S	R	S	J	W	T	S	T	Z	P
T	P	N	O	E	A	L	A	T	E	M	E	O	I	L
B	L	H	V	S	G	P	N	D	M	H	U	R	R	A
C	R	J	E	I	H	M	D	F	E	G	L	E	E	S
O	E	F	S	F	R	E	C	Y	C	L	E	S	C	T
N	D	L	D	J	K	O	T	G	T	L	G	D	L	I
D	U	S	L	C	H	N	N	R	U	F	O	L	A	C
J	C	O	M	P	O	S	T	M	P	G	I	R	N	P
Y	E	D	A	Z	L	V	R	P	E	M	L	E	D	A
W	B	P	X	R	G	B	T	R	G	N	K	C	F	T
L	E	V	C	U	L	I	T	T	E	R	T	H	I	R
R	G	H	B	I	A	N	U	H	E	Y	D	L	L	E
G	R	D	R	K	S	R	I	S	N	D	A	T	L	E
K	A	G	T	F	S	Y	U	F	D	K	S	A	E	S
Q	M	B	U	Y	R	E	C	Y	C	L	E	D	A	W

Find these words in this puzzle

Look from right to left, left to right and diagonally!

Environment

Paper

Sand

Reduce

Trees

Plastic

Reuse

Metal

Oil

Recycles

Ores

Landfill

Compost

Glass

Litter

Buy Recycled

# Word Search Answers

	E						S							P
		N				L	A	T	E	M		O		L
			V				N					R		A
	R			I			D					E		S
	E				R	E	C	Y	C	L	E	S		T
	D					O							L	I
	U						N				O		A	C
	C	O	M	P	O	S	T	M			I		N	
	E		A						E		L		D	
		P			G					N			F	T
	E				L	I	T	T	E	R	T		I	R
R					A				E				L	E
					S			S					L	E
					S		U							S
		B	U	Y	R	E	C	Y	C	L	E	D		

Environment

Metal

Reduce

Ores

Reuse

Glass

Recycles

Sand

Compost

Plastic

Buy Recycled

Oil

Paper

Landfill

Trees

Litter



## Word Jumbles Answers

DECUER	R	E	D	U	C	E					
LMATE	M	E	T	A	L						
LCYREEC	R	E	C	Y	C	L	E				
STOOMCP	C	O	M	P	O	S	T				
TCPASLI	P	L	A	S	T	I	C				
EUSRE	R	E	U	S	E						
ULOTNIOPL	P	O	L	L	U	T	I	O	N		
EPRPA	P	A	P	E	R						
SAGLS	G	L	A	S	S						
YBU DECCLEYR	B	U	Y	R	E	C	Y	C	L	E	D
If you RECYCLE,											
You Use Less ENERGY!											

## How Long Will it Last????

Draw a Line from the Material to the Time You Think It Will Last Before Decomposing!!



ALUMINUM CAN

2-4 WEEKS

CIGARETTE BUTTS

1-3 MONTHS



TINCAN

1 YEAR

BANANA PEEL

2-5 YEARS

GLASS BOTTLE



10-20 YEARS



PAPER

100 YEARS

6-PACK HOLDER

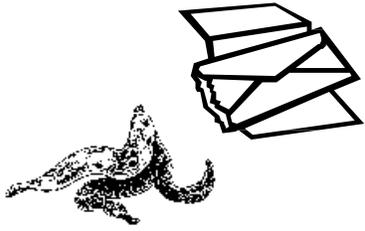


200 - 400 YEARS



DISPOSABLE DIAPERS

MORE THAN 500 YEARS

2 - 4 Weeks		Paper
1 - 3 Months		Banana Peel Carrots Broccoli Stems Apple Cores
6 Months		Cotton Rag
3 - 14 Months		Rope
1 Year		Wool Cap
1 - 3 Years		Bamboo Pole
2 - 5 Years		Cigarette Butt
10 Years		Painted Wooden Stake
10 - 20 Years		Disposable Diaper
100 Years		Tin Can
200 - 400 Years		Aluminum Can
> 500 Years		Plastic Milk Bottle 6 Pack Holder Glass Bottle
		Tire

## Ways to Reduce, Reuse, Recycle...and Re-Purpose!!

- 1.) Commit to “Buy Recycled” at home, at school, at work or in the community. Encourage the use of recycled-content products.
- 2.) Organize a display of recycled content products and packaging at your local church, office, school, grocery store, or retail shopping center.
- 3.) Ask local retailers to stock more products made from recycled materials.
- 4.) Look for “safe bets” that always have recycled content: steel, aluminum, glass, molded pulp containers.
- 5.) Purchase remanufactured products and equipment such as toner cartridges, office furniture, auto parts, re-refined oil or retreaded tires.
- 6.) Teach children why “If you are buying recycled, then you really are recycling!” You’re closing the Loop! Organize a tour of a local facility that manufactures recycled-content products or packaging.
- 7.) Purchase products you know can be recycled in your community.
- 8.) Call or write the manufacturer if one of your favorite products does not have recycled content, and ask them to change that.
- 9.) Read product labels and look for recycled content, especially post-consumer content.
- 10.) Remember, waste reduction is important too. Look for ways to not make garbage. Composting is a great way to start.

- + Donate Clothes
- + Reduce food waste
- + Eat healthier foods-less packaging
- + Save leftovers
- + Purchase items with less packaging
- + Get a permanent water bottle-avoid plastic water bottles
- + Reduce purchases
- + **RECYCLE EVERYTHING POSSIBLE**
- + Create homemade cleaning products from baking soda, vinegar, & water
- + Compost
- + Purchase rechargeable batteries
- + Buy products in recycled cartons or containers
- + **GET INVOLVED!!**