



R INFO 4 KIDS: RECYCLING EDUCATION KIT FOR GRADES 3-5

SUMMARY DESCRIPTION OF KIT CONTENTS

A diverse selection of materials has been included in this kit, in the hopes that instructors will find something that meets the needs of their particular group. This sheet serves as a basic summary of the kit materials.

Books:

- **The Adventures of an Plastic Bottle: A Story About Recycling**
Cute storybook representation of the plastic lifecycle/recycling process. With glossary. Presentation may be slightly young for some 4th-5th graders, but basic concepts are accurate.
- **Composting: Nature's Recyclers**
A very basic overview of the concept of composting; heavy on biological concepts but light on practical how-to application.
- **Do It Yourself Recycling**
A great text full of facts, figures and simple experiments and activities to explore the concepts of trash and recycling. Good instructions for activities that use readily available materials.
- **Garbage: Investigate What Happens When You Throw It Out with 25 Projects**
Lots of great factoids and good word definitions. Some pages would be nice photocopied as handouts or enlarged to show students. Chapters 5, 6 and 7 (on Reducing, Reusing and Recycling) are all very good.
- **How You Can Use Waste Energy to Heat & Light Your Home**
A thorough introduction to waste-to-energy incineration as a part of an integrated waste management system that also includes residential reuse, composting and recycling strategies.
- **Now We Know About...Recycling**
Simple overview of how recycling works, covering many different kinds of materials. Suitable for students to read on their own.
- **Operation Reuse It!**
An illustrated storybook that teaches how to divert materials from the disposal stream.
- **Our Environment: Recycling**
A science-oriented overview of the environmental impacts of waste and the challenges and successes of recycling.
- **Precious Earth: Waste and Recycling**
Focus is heavier on wastes than recycling, but presents an accurate overview of the problems posed by wastes, both nationally and globally. Book emphasis is on understanding the underlying issues and concepts, not so much on presenting solutions/actions.
- **Recycle!: A Handbook for Kids**
A very basic pictorial overview of the recycling process.
- **Recycled Crafts Box**
Arts-and-crafts projects that explore materials reuse. Many may require adult assistance.
- **Recycling Waste**
A simple, suitable introduction to the topic of waste and recycling, with facts, photos and diagrams.
- **Waste and Recycling (Green Team)**
Focus is heavier on recycling than wastes, but presents a good overview of recycling processes as well as actions students can take. Encourages personal responsibility.
- **What's It Like Living Green?: Kids Teaching Kids, by the Way They Live**
An assortment of eco-facts, green tips and project ideas as told through stories from real families. Page 58 features a Maryland family.

DVD/Interactive:

- **Residential Recycling in Frederick County**
A brief, basic introduction to what single-stream recycling is and how our local program works.
- **Bill Nye the Science Guy: Garbage**
This video provides a good introduction to the concept of trash and in particular places emphasis on the problem of too much trash in today's consumption-oriented world. It does not go into: how a landfill works or how the recycling process works. Basically covers the three R's (reduce reuse recycle), how to do them and why it's important, all in a fairly entertaining, humorous style. The video includes a segment that looks at cereal box packaging; this would make a very good hands-on classroom activity.
- **Recyclorama**
A video game (for personal computers) that encourages students to think about what is and isn't recyclable as well as how difficult it is to sort all the materials out and manage a recycling program! Fun, fast game play.
- **Talking Trash Knowledge Cards Deck: "Everything You Need to Know About Garbage, from Rot to Recycling"**. A deck of trivia cards that present learning, discussion and quiz opportunities.

Show-and-Tell and Activity Items:

- **A pencil pouch** made from reused Capri-Sun drink pouches and an info sheet on TerraCycle.
- **Fleece hat** made from recycled plastic, a Green Toys 100% Recycled **Plastic Race Car** and an info sheet on plastic recycling.
- **Bottles & Lids recycling demo** and info sheet.
- **Recycled-content toilet paper** and a fact sheet on paper recycling.
- Clean, empty, recyclable **soda can** and a fact sheet on aluminum recycling.
- **"Quiz Bag"** of items—some acceptable, some unacceptable for recycling (with answer sheet).
- **Laminated pictures** of the Frederick County landfill and recycling program (with fact sheets/notes).

Also Included:

- **Teacher/Leader Resources Binder:** including sample lesson plans, posters and activity ideas.
 - A **Digital Resources** CD that contains files, photos, videos and more.
 - A complete waste management curriculum binder, **"Closing the Loop"**, created by the state of California.
 - **"A Collection of Solid Waste Resources"** CD produced by the EPA- chock full of youth and adult materials!
 - An EPA **"Planet Protectors"** kit, which is yours to keep, free!
- **An inventory checklist so you can keep track of what's in your kit and provide feedback on the items you used. Please fill this out before returning your kit; Office of Recycling Staff will ask for it when you drop off the materials. Thank You!**