



R INFO 4 KIDS: RECYCLING EDUCATION KIT FOR GRADES K-2

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 Aluminum Can: A Story About Recycling**
Cute storybook representation of the aluminum lifecycle/recycling process. With glossary.
- **The Compost Heap**
A gross, graphic depiction of the composting process designed to engage young learners through their fascination with all things “icky”.
- **Don’t Throw That Away!**
A lift-the-flap board book useful for beginning a conversation about materials reuse.
- **Garbage Helps Our Garden Grow**
Presents the composting process through a pictorial story and explains why it is important.
- **Help the Environment: Reusing & Recycling**
Very basic intro to simple actions for helping the environment, suitable for the young learners and readers.
- **Michael Recycle**
An illustrated tale about a town that needed to learn to recycle and the superhero that inspires them.
- **Miss Fox’s Class Goes Green**
A nice story that encourages a variety of reduce-reuse-recycle actions for young students.
- **Recycle! A Handbook for Kids**
An excellent pictorial introduction to how the recycling process works and why it matters.
- **Recycle Every Day!**
Explores the general concepts/philosophy of reusing, reducing and recycling at school and at home. Includes a recycling game at the end of the book (for 2-4 players).
- **Recycled Crafts Box**
Arts-and-crafts projects that explore materials reuse. Most will require adult assistance.
- **Trash and Recycling**
Usborne Books. A good introduction to terminology and basic concept, but K-2 students will likely need assistance comprehending the language and information. Note that on p. 8 it mentions trash transferring; in Frederick County, about 5% of our trash is buried on site at our own landfill and the rest is transferred. In our system, the “enormous metal boxes” of trash (referred to on p. 8) sit on the backs of 18-wheeled tractor-trailer trucks which drive the trash to an out-of-state landfill.
- **Where do Recyclable Materials Go?**
The story of what happens to recyclables after they leave the curb. Probably best suited for smaller groups; it tries to cram a lot (information, story and visuals) on to each page. Material may better suit grades 2 and 3 than younger students.
- **Why Should I Recycle?**
Simple text for young readers, explains the importance of recycling.

Videos:

- **Residential Recycling in Frederick County**
A brief, basic introduction to what single-stream recycling is and how our local program works.
- **Respect Yo' Mama: Here Comes the Recycle Man:**
A look at the broader recycling industry (not just curbside)- what happens to old cars, where metals are sent for recycling, etc. Skip the intro and most of the whole DVD; just focus on the glass recycling process and the good footage of the metal recycling process—lots of shots of machinery, smelting factories, etc. to excite young viewers. (Sections to watch: “Jean Meltin’ ” and “Meltin’ Glass”.)
- **Garbage and Recycling (Featuring Backpack Jack)**
Fun, high-energy look at trash management geared towards young viewers (though we wish they wouldn't refer to recyclables as garbage!) Covers basic household recycling as well as cars, scrap metal, tires and yard waste. Briefly discusses landfills, in relation to the importance of recycling. Lots of images of machinery in action.
- **Where the Garbage Goes**
Pretty good overview of curbside recycling with lots of shots of equipment at work (note – the whole video is ALL imagery, NO narration.) The movie was made in the late 1980's though; most modern MRFs are more mechanized than what is shown here (less hand sorting, more specialized machinery), but otherwise it's a very accurate portrayal. First 9 minutes = recycling. Starting at 9:30= composting. 13:45 begins scrap metal recycling. 15:35 through to the end covers garbage.

Show-and-Tell and Activity Items:

- **Talking Trash Cards Deck:** Everything You Need to Know About Garbage, from Rot to Recycling Knowledge Trivia
- **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!**