

A Third Grade Project

Dunk It!

Don't Junk It!

Dunk It! Don't Junk It! A Third Grade Project
The East Baton Rouge Recycling Program

Benchmarks:

Science

SE-E-A3 identify ways in which humans have altered their environment both in positive and negative ways, either for themselves or other living things.

SE-E-A4 understanding that the original sources of all material goods are natural resources and that the conserving and recycling of natural resources is a form of stewardship.

Concept: Students will learn to separate recyclable materials in order to prepare the material for the East Baton Rouge Recycling Program.

Objectives

- To recognize that recycling diverts waste from the landfill.
- To understand that valuable energy and natural resources are conserved through recycling efforts.
- To realize that one of the greatest challenges to overcome when recycling at home and at the MRF (Materials Recovery Facility-pronounced murf) is effective separation of the various types of recyclables.

Materials

Per Class: Ask students to bring in recyclables one week before lesson.

- stop watch
- 2 pieces of scrap paper, i.e., junk mail, magazines, paperboard, etc.
- 2 paperboard boxes
- 4 plastic containers -2 accepted (#1,# 2) and 2 not accepted (#'s 3, 4, 5, 6)
- 2 aluminum cans
- 2 tin cans
- 1 frozen food container
- 4 compostable material (i.e., branches, large leaves, egg shells, etc. FOR COMPOST BIN*)
- 1 newspaper
- 1 piece of cardboard
- audio tape
- plastic bag

Per student:

- *Recycle with the 2-Step Sort* handout

Time Frame: One class period.

3RD

GRADE



**ASSOCIATED
FOOD STORES**



Georgia-Pacific



Materials provided by the
City of East Baton Rouge-
Parish of East Baton Rouge
Recycling Office

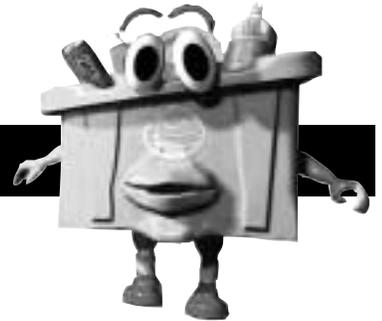
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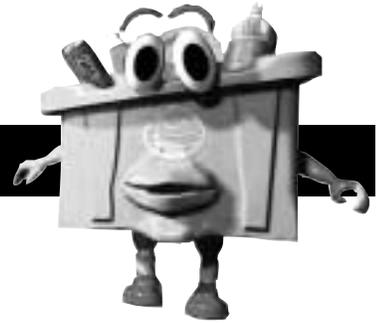
Procedure

1. Ask, *When we recycle at home, do we have to separate the recyclables from waste? Why? What about separating the recyclables into categories? Why is this important?* Discuss the reasons why recyclables collected in the East Baton Rouge Recycling Program must be separated. (Separating recyclables prior to delivery at the MRF facilitates the recycling process).
2. Use the materials collected to explain the differences between the various materials.
3. Review those items that are recycled by the East Baton Rouge Parish (EBRP) program, those that are not accepted, and those that should be composted. *Compost material is processed in resident's backyard using a compost bin. **Compost includes materials like yard waste, fruit and vegetable scraps, coffee grounds, grass clippings, dry leaves, and twigs. Do not put compost materials in the recycling bin!!**
4. Play **Recycle Relay**. The object of the game is to beat the clock and be the group that gets the collected materials properly placed in the categories in the shortest amount of time following the EBRP program guidelines. The penalty for improper placement of an item is 7 seconds, so it pays to place it in the right spot.



5. Set up a relay race playing field. Mark off a 30-foot area. At the starting end place the materials that have been collected. At the opposite end, place: Recycling bins (recyclables accepted by our program are placed here), large paper bags marked "SP" (scrap paper, i.e., magazines, junk mail computer paper), garbage can (items not accepted by our program), and bucket (compostable items, i.e., leaves, sticks, egg shells, etc.)





6. Divide the class evenly into four groups.
7. Group members stand in line at the starting point.
8. As soon as the clock starts, one group member selects an item from the pile of materials, runs to the proper container, deposits it, returns to the starting point and touches the next member's hand. The race continues until all materials are placed. *Note: The relay time may be easily shortened by limiting the number of items to be deposited to one per member.*
9. The clock stops as soon as the last member returns to the starting point.
10. Record the elapsed time.
11. Items deposited in each category are checked. Seven seconds are added to the recorded time for each incorrectly placed item.
12. Return the items to the starting point and prepare for the next team's relay.
13. The team with the shortest recorded time wins the race.

Bridging from the Classroom to Real Life

How can we reduce, reuse, and recycle at school? How can you practice reduce, reuse, recycle in your home?

Extension

Collect pictures of various food packages from the Thursday and Sunday newspapers. Have students paste the pictures in the categories as required by the East Baton Rouge Parish Recycling Program.

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