



Recycle (1 & 2)

Focus Areas

Language Arts, Math, Science,
Social Studies, Technology,
Visual Arts

Time Needed for Activity

60 to 90 minutes

Software

Kidspiration

System Requirements

Macintosh

Mac OS 8.6-9.2.2, OS X.2 or
later
128 MB RAM
600 MB for installation
800 x 600, thousands of colors
4x CD-ROM

Windows

Win 98, SE, 2000, ME, XP
300 MHz or faster
128 MB RAM
600 MB for installation
800 x 600, thousands of colors
4x CD-ROM

Supporting Software

2 Investigate
Sammy's Science House

Overall Objectives

Children will:

- Work independently using the Internet to research recycling topics
- Use software to create a map that showcases their ability to understand, recognize, and describe, recycling, and to make connections between real world recycling practices and what they can accomplish in the classroom
- Demonstrate knowledge and skills in the use of computers.

Activity Description

This activity is intended to be used as part of a curriculum unit on recycling in which children learn about the importance of recycling and methods for accomplishing good recycling practices. Children should have prior experience using a computer, conducting an Internet search, and using Kidspiration software. A template, similar to the one shown at the end of this activity, can be created ahead of time. Children can also create their own concept map with a few simple directions.

After researching the topics of “recycling” and “environment” on the Internet, children will open Kidspiration. On the starter screen, they will click “More”, then click “Concept Map” and “OK.” To begin the concept map, they will type “Recycle” in the “Idea” box, then fill in and add more linking boxes. The first series of linking boxes could contain types of recycled materials, methods of recycling, or environmental factors. The second series should be more specific examples. After completing the concept map, children may create drawings of some of the items in their concept map by using the Symbol Maker located in the top menu bar. In some cases they may be able to use stamps in the Symbol Maker, or pictures from the library located on the left side of the screen.

Children can write about recycling by adding text related to the items on their page. When all children have completed a page, the

Notes

pages can be combined into a booklet. A small version of the book can be printed for each group member, while a large size book can be printed for the classroom library.

Learning Standards

Children will:

Learn the importance of recycling and keeping our air clean.

Science: Science in Personal and Social Perspectives

Social Studies: Culture; People, Places and Environment

Technology: Digital Citizenship

Understand that they can reuse materials and reduce the amount of waste that is produced.

Math: Algebra, Connections, Data Analysis and Probability

Science: Physical Science

Social Studies: People, Places, and Environments

Technology: Research and Information Fluency; Critical Thinking, Problem-Solving, and Decision-Making; Technology Operations and Concepts

Understand properties of earth materials.

Science: Physical Science, Science and Technology, Earth and Space Science

Technology: Research and Information Fluency; Critical Thinking, Problem-Solving, and Decision-Making; Technology Operations and Concepts

Conduct research, and gather and relay information from a variety of media and technology resources.

Language Arts: Communication Skills, Communication Strategies, Evaluation

Science: Science as Inquiry

Technology: Communication and Collaboration; Research and Information Fluency; Critical Thinking, Problem-Solving, and Decision-Making; Technology Operations and Concepts

Visual Arts: Choosing and Evaluating a Range of Subject Matter, Symbols, and Ideas

Additional Activities

- Ask children to create posters using images of recycling material, activities, or programs they find on the Internet. They can import the images into a word processing document (using a text box is best) and add text to inform others about recycling.

Notes

Additional Activities (cont'd)

- Encourage the children to use Kidspiration to experiment with drawing other concept maps related to different themes.
- Children can sort recycling items into different bins in the program, Sammy's Science House.
- Plan a field trip to a community recycling center. Ask children to take digital pictures of the facility, the recycled materials, and the process. Children can download the pictures onto the class computer and create a book about recycling. Text can be added to describe the pictures and experience.

Resources

Books

- Auerbach, A. (2001). *Bob the builder: Bob's recycling day*. New York: Simon & Schuster.
- Beech, L. (1995). *The Magic Schoolbus meets the rot squad*. New York: Scholastic.
- Gibbons, G. (1992). *Recycle! A handbook for kids*. Boston: Little, Brown.
- Gilman, P. (1992). *Something from nothing*. NY: Scholastic.
- James, B. (1990). *Waste and recycling*. Austin, TX: Steck-Vaughn.

Web sites for teachers, children, and families

- <http://www.broward.org/recycling/schoolsrecycling.htm>
- <http://www.epa.gov/kids/garbage.htm>
- <http://www.metrokc.gov/dnrp/swd/education/index.asp>
- <http://www.planetpals.com/earthday.html>
- <http://www.tappi.org/paperu>
- <http://www.astc.org/exhibitions/rotten/rthome.htm>
- <http://www.virtualrecycling.com/>

Notes

Recycling Concept Map Example

