



Recycle your trash.

Art by Maya, age 9, California, USA



Get Inspired

Quote

"The earth is what we all have in common."

Wendell Berry

Fact

Americans throw away 2.5 million plastic bottles every hour.



Shake It Up

Stand up. Pretend you're picking up an empty water bottle off the ground and throwing it into the recycle bin as if you were playing basketball. Take 10 jump shots.

"I care for our earth!"



Talk It Out

1. Why is recycling important?
2. Do you recycle at home? What do you recycle the most? How does it make you feel to put something in the recycle bin?
3. Are you ever confused about what to recycle? Do you know where you can find out what you can recycle?



Do It!

1. The next family meal you have, ask your parent if you can take care of the recycling.
2. Take any cardboard, plastic or glass packaging from your meal, clean it and place it in your recycle bin.
3. Take a recycling selfie and send it to your teacher!

Recycle your trash.

SEL Competencies

Responsible Decision-Making

Identifying Problems
Analyzing Situations
Solving Problems
Ethical Responsibility

Timeframe

15 min

Materials Required

Recyclable materials
(from a family meal)



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Quote

Invite a student to read the quote.

Fact

Americans throw away 2.5 million plastic bottles every hour.

Source: Recycle Across America



Shake It Up

Get your students moving. Invite them to do the following activity:

1. Stand up.
2. Have your students pretend they are basketball stars and that they're picking up an empty water bottle off the ground and throwing it into the recycle bin as if they were playing basketball.
3. Have them jump and "throw" their bottle into a make believe recycle bin 10 times.
4. When they are done have them shout, "I care for our earth!"



Talk It Out

Encourage your students to reflect on the provided questions.

1. Why is recycling important?
2. Do you recycle at home? What do you recycle the most? How does it make you feel to put something in the recycle bin?
3. Are you ever confused about what to recycle? Do you know where you can find out what you can recycle?



Do It! (individually)

Encourage your students to do the following after school:

1. Have students ask their parents if they can take care of the recycling after a meal.
2. Instruct them to take any cardboard, plastic or glass packaging from the meal, clean it and place it in the recycle bin.
3. Ask them to take a recycling selfie and send it to you.