



SUSTAINABLE TEACHING CURRICULUM
LESSON PLAN

Recycling

Primary Subject – Social Studies, Math, Science, Art

Objectives:

- The students will learn what objects are recyclable
- The students will learn how much waste they produce during lunch time
- The students will learn how to recycle

Materials:

- Labeled Bin for Class Waste during lunch time – different bags for each day
- (Draw chart on Board with headings for each column of: plastic, aluminum, glass, and waste)
- Waste for Lunch
- Trash Bin
- Recycling Bin
- Markers, other art materials

Introduction to Lesson:

1. Anticipatory Set:
 - "How many of you buy lunch or how many of you bring lunch?"
 - "What do you eat for lunch?"
 - "What do you use to eat lunch?"
2. Purpose: To discover how much waste we produce and how we can reduce that waste.

Major Instructional Sequence:

3. Instruction:
 - Remind students that they have been collecting their waste all week long.
 - Introduce the Audit - Count all the items of waste in the bin to see how much we produce

- Separate into small groups – 4 or 5 (depending on how many days the waste was collected)
- Talk about what the definition of each category is with examples:
 - Plastic – Water Bottle, etc.
 - Aluminum – Soda Cans, etc
 - Glass
 - Waste – ziplock bags, yogurt containers
- Designate someone to keep a tally (student or teacher)
- Students go through their assigned bags and as they encounter items they tell the designated tally person which category to mark
- Talk about how much waste there was (total number of items) vs. the amount of products that were recyclable (total number of items)
 - Waste: Landfill, Loss of Habitat (show photos of a landfill)
 - Recycling: Reusing the product to make new ones (bring an example)

Concluding Sequence:

6. What we learned:

- Explain to students that we must teach everyone else what we learned through our actions

1. Decorate a sign that says proud to recycle

- Students can either draw or write something about why recycling is good

Backgrounds:

Disposable water bottles, aluminum cans, and many other products are very harmful to the environment. However, if we recycle these products we can reduce their impact on the environment because we reuse the material (i.e. plastic or glass), and we prevent the product from being put in a landfill. It is important to instill the habit of recycling in students now. This way they will continue practicing this good habit for the rest of their lives.

Vocabulary:

Recycling- when the material a product is made of (be that glass, plastic etc.) is reused to be made into a new product.

Landfill- (also known as the dump) a designated area where all non-recyclable trash gets disposed of