



# PROGRAMME 21: RECYCLING

## AIM

The aim of this lesson is to encourage children to Reduce, Reuse and Recycle in their everyday lives and how using the three Rs can help us in society.

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## LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Children will:

- understand what the concepts Reduce, Reuse and Recycle mean
  - understand that their everyday actions have consequences in the environment
  - realise that Reducing, Reusing and Recycling can aid our everyday lives
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## MATERIALS

- DVD 2 episode 'Recycling'
  - Paints, pencils, markers
  - Large papers
  - Supermarket brochures
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## SKILLS

- Communication
  - Co-operation
  - Self-management
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## VIRTUES

- Reliability
- Responsibility
- Co-operation
- Honesty
- Diligence
- Awareness

## LESSONS *(Adapt for Juniors)*

View the episode 'Recycling' on DVD 2 before the lesson. See CD Rom for printable worksheets.

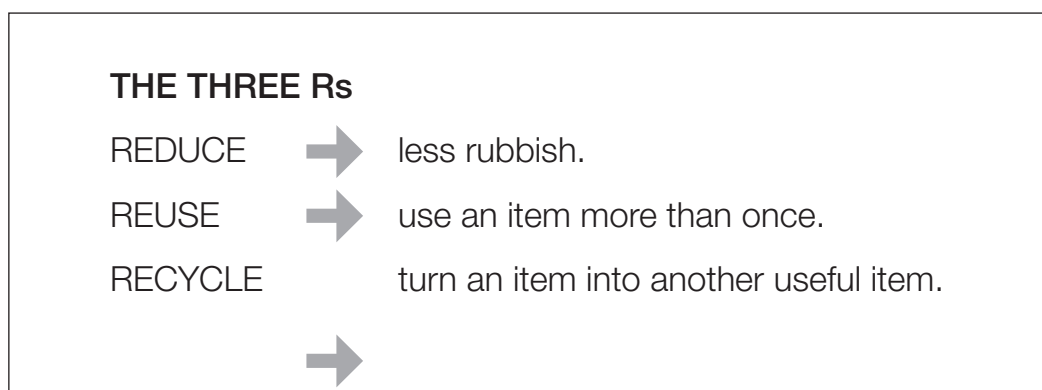
1. Brainstorm and ask the children if they know what happens to rubbish after they put it in the bin. Explain to the children that rubbish goes to a refuse station/landfill and that once that particular landfill gets full, another one has to be found.
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2. Ask the children to imagine what it would be like if the city ran out of room for rubbish. Read to the children the following scenario: in 2020 the Prime Minister of New Zealand has made an announcement that because all the landfills have been filled, they will now need to make local parks and school playgrounds their new landfills because of a lack of available space.

Ask the children what they can do today to keep the news story from coming true. On a large piece of paper, brainstorm their ideas.

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3. Introduce the concept of the 3 Rs: Reduce, Reuse and Recycle; and discuss how a plastic milk bottle, a pencil or a tin can can be reduced, reused or recycled in your area.



4. Using the following worksheet, have the children cut out pictures of a variety of groceries and items that a household would typically use from supermarket brochures. Get them to paste the items in the appropriate section: Reduce, Reuse and Recycle.

Discuss what the benefits might be of using the three Rs.

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## REDUCE, REUSE AND RECYCLE

Name: ..... Date: .....

Cut and paste items from a supermarket brochure into the correct three R boxes below.  
You can draw the items if you wish.

REDUCE:

REUSE:

RECYCLE:

## SUPPLEMENTARY ACTIVITIES

### Art

Gather a variety of plastic bottles; have children make upright animals, penguins, birds and people.

Collect a variety of items e.g. cardboard, steel, bits and pieces and make a sculpture piece for display.

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### Outdoor Education

Contact your local council and ask for any funding or helpful items such as gloves, plastic bags and rubbish sticks, so your class can go on an excursion to a local park to pick up rubbish and clean it up. Alternatively, the class can clean up graffiti and tagging by painting over it. Have the children contact the council to ask permission to clean certain areas or walls and obtain acceptable paint and paint brushes.

Plant a variety of plants in reusable bottles and containers.

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### Reading

Have the children read a variety of the three Rs books, both fiction and non-fiction. Have the children 'book sell' a book, explaining the title, author, a brief excerpt of the book, their favourite page and rating out of 10.

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### Technology

Using large plastic containers, make a worm farm with the children. Gather dirt and add worms then discuss what happens to organic foods.

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### Topic

Have a variety of plastic items in the middle of the mat with a recycling bin and rubbish bin/bag next to the items. Have the children in a circle, then ask all the children to pick up one piece. Discuss the recycle symbol and number on the bottom of the item. Each child in the circle can then place their item into either a rubbish bag ready for the refuse station or the recycling bin. (In New Zealand we can only recycle numbers 1 and 2.)

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### Written Language

Have children write a narrative about a time in the not too distant future when all available landfills have been filled and the only available spaces are the schools and local parks.

Have children find alternatives to landfills, such as designing a new robot that would biodegrade organic items within hours rather than weeks. Or design machines that can create robots using tin cans etc.

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