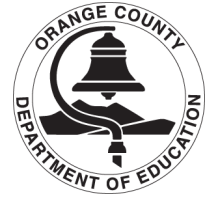




Build a Recycling Center Classroom Activity



Did you know that more than half of what is thrown in the trash is reusable? The loss of natural resources and energy, along with waste disposal costs, make recycling an important alternative!

SYNOPSIS

Students will construct a classroom recycling center to help solve school and community waste problems.

OBJECTIVES

Students will apply their knowledge about the importance of protecting natural resources and open space, like Upper Newport Bay, from human impact by working to implement recycling at their homes and/or school.

VOCABULARY/CONCEPTS

- conservation
- natural resources
- recycling

MATERIALS

- cardboard box(es)
- pens and/or paint
- magazine
- glue
- How to Recycle (on following page or in Student Notebook)

PROCEDURE

Have students decorate a large cardboard box. Students should list on the box the items to be recycled: glass, aluminum, plastic, paper, etc. Using magazines, students may wish to cut out pictures of the different items that can be recycled and glue these pictures on the box.

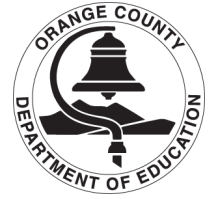
You may also encourage students to create a similar recycling center for use at home. The “How to Recycle” (page 83) tips in the student notebook will be helpful in the classroom project.

EXTENSIONS

- Have the students label the trash cans on campus with “Landfill” to help remind students that those items go straight to the landfill.
- Create posters or school wide announcements to share with other classes what items can and cannot be recycled.



How to Recycle



HOW TO RECYCLE GLASS

As much as possible, buy returnable or reusable bottles. To prepare glass for recycling, do the following:

- Rinse the glass. You do not need to remove the labels.
- Check with the recycling center to see if you need to remove all metal caps and rings.
- Check with the recycling center to see if you need to separate glass containers by color.

HOW TO RECYCLE PAPER

Newsprint:

- Stack newspaper in a fire-safe area.
- Check with the recycling center to see if newspapers should be tied in stacks, or placed in paper bags.

Other papers:

- Corrugated cardboard – Flatten for easy storage and transportation. Store in a fire-safe area.
- High Grades – (computer paper, tab cards, and ledger paper). Check to see what types of paper the recycling center accepts.

HOW TO RECYCLE ALUMINUM

- Check to make certain the cans are all aluminum.
- Rinse the cans. (You may wish to flatten to save storage and transportation space.)
- Separate aluminum cans from other aluminum products (i.e., TV dinner trays and foil).

HOW TO RECYCLE TIN CANS (These are typical food cans: 1% tin, 99% steel)

- Rinse and remove labels.
- Remove both ends and flatten.

HOW TO RECYCLE PLASTIC

- Check for the recyclable plastic identification code on bottom of container.
- Check for recyclable lids and caps.
- Rinse out containers.
- Take off labels.

HOW TO RECYCLE OTHER MATERIALS

Call your State Waste Management Board or Department of Public Works for information on how to recycle oil, styrofoam, batteries, tires, paint, antifreeze, appliances, or other materials.

Visit www.calrecycle.ca.gov to locate the recycling centers nearest to you.