

LESSON PLAN TEMPLATE

LESSON PLAN Ref:		Course Ref:	
Subject / Course:	Learn what everyday trash items can be recycled or replaced		
Topic:	TRASH AUDIT		
Lesson Title:	TRASH AUDIT		
Level:	all levels	Lesson Duration:	15-20 min

Lesson Objectives:

People will learn how they can rethink their purchases, what they can recycle, and how they can reduce what goes into the landfill.

Summary of Tasks / Actions:

1. Get a typical family's trash for a day.
2. Go through it item by item and figure out what can be recycled instead or what more environmentally friendly options can be purchased
3. Put items into new bin (Recycle, rethink, Compost, Reuse, Trash)

Reflective questions:

- What surprised you?
- What will you do differently when you go back home?
- What did you learn?

Materials / Equipment:

Trash Can - styrofoam egg carton, cardboard egg carton, straw, metal cans, plastic wraps, cardboard boxes with the inside wrapper, chip bags, plastic bags, plasticware, water bottle, egg shells, orange peel, produce bags, plastic grocery bags, plastic take-out containers, bottle caps, styrofoam take-out containers,

References: Takeaways

- Recycling skills
- Learn how to reuse materials or buy better products
- Learn how much of your trash could really be recycled

Take Home Tasks:

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- Use more environmentally and recyclable items at home

Plastic Straws - Use bamboo or steel straws instead.

Balloons - Plan a planet-friendly party and skip the balloons. Opt for more eco-friendly decoration options like paper lanterns, reusable bunting, DIY bubble blowers and flowers.

Disposable Coffee Cups and Lids - Use reusable cups and mugs.

Plastic Cutlery - Switch to reusable bamboo utensils, a travel cutlery set that you can take with you wherever you go or bring your own from home!

Styrofoam Cups - Bring your own reusable cup.

Take-out Containers - Choose nature-friendly takeaway! Next time you order takeaway, choose cuisines like pizza or Mexican that don't often come in plastic containers and avoid pre-packaged meals.

Plastic Bags - Bring reusable grocery bags instead.

Batteries - Use rechargeable batteries.

Plastic Water Bottles - Use reusable water bottles instead.

Plastic Trash Bags - Consider no trash bag or biodegradable trash bags instead.

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Coffee K-cups - Use fresh ground coffee and a reusable filter pod

Egg Cartons - Use cardboard ones instead because they can be recycled and can decompose more easily.

Newspaper - Most mail can be recycled instead of thrown in the trash or you can request to be removed from mailing lists.

Junk Mail - Most mail can be recycled instead of thrown in the trash or you can request to be removed from mailing lists.

Glass Bottle - Glass is not easily recyclable right now, consider buying aluminum cans or using a refillable cup or bottle.

Milk Jug- Rinse and recycle!

Ink Cartridge- Drop off site at Target or check out several return programs.

Crayons- Consider The Crayon Project! Mail your crayons back, so they can help those in need!

Old Sneaker- Drop off at DSW for VIP rewards! They partner with Soles4Souls!

Vegetable Can - Many of these can be recycled! Make sure you rinse it out first!

Orange peels - These can be composted.

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Food Boxes - Many of these can be recycled! You can buy in bulk to save packaging too!

Receipts - Many receipts are made with thermal paper which contains BPA and cannot be recycled. Consider a text or email receipt instead.

Potato Chip Bag - These cannot be recycled and end up in the landfill. Consider bulk purchases instead of single serving sizes.

Diapers - Consider cloth diapers

Wet Wipes - Wet wipes can only go to the landfill. Consider using a washcloth or small towel that can be washed and reused.

Ziplock Bags - Use washable storage containers that can be reused.

Bruised Apple - This can be composted.

Body Wash - Plastic bottles can be recycled if they are rinsed properly. Consider using bar soap instead.

Old T Shirt - Consider thrifting if not too old. Can be used as a cleaning rag if really old.

Paint Can - Hold onto it until a special hazard waste disposal day.

Old Electronics - Phones are accepted by many sheltering organizations.

Other items like computers and printers are accepted by places like Goodwill

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Industries.

Laundry Detergent Bottles – Consider buying alternative products that have biodegradable containers or try making your own laundry detergent.

Old Linens – Use as cleaning rags or donate to humane societies.

Grass Clippings – Consider leaving them on your lawn or adding them to your compost bin.

Food Packaging – Food packing that is not specific plastic or cardboard or cannot be cleaned of food/oils is actually trash.

Prepared Food Packaging – Food packing that is not specific plastic or cardboard or cannot be cleaned of food/oils is actually trash.

Paper Rolls – Can be recycled

Aluminum Cans – Can be recycled after being rinsed of food particles.

Soup Cans – Can be recycled after being rinsed of food particles.

Beverage Cartons – Often can be recycled after being rinsed of food item.

Note the lid is usually a different material and often needs to be removed.