

Help others to recycle

Overview

This session looks at the various options for disposing of waste and discusses how recycling is beneficial. The pupils will be encouraged to use a range of information sources to investigate what can and can't be recycled at home.

Curriculum links

English

- Read with good understanding for information
- Write clearly, accurately & coherently, adapting language and style appropriately for the context, purpose & audience

IT

- Use technology purposefully

Preparation

Either:

- For homework, ask pupils to research what items family members find difficult to recycle/are unsure about, or
- Ask other members of staff what they have difficulty with

Resources

- A selection of clean rubbish (include a wide range of items that can go in the home recycling bin, as well as a few examples of items that cannot & examples of 'difficult to recycle' items)
- Access to the internet
- Child friendly leaflets (please see resources on Norfolk recycles website)
- Paper, pens, pencils



Introduction

- Have a selection of waste items/pictures of waste items displayed. Also have examples of the items identified as difficult to recycle but keep these separate
- Discuss with the class what you can do with an item when you no longer need it (draw out reuse it, recycle/compost it or dispose of it)
- What happens to an item if we put it in the rubbish bin? (Energy from waste)
- Why is it better to recycle? (Saves energy, water & resources, better for the environment)
- Refer to the items displayed – which of these can we put in our recycling bin at home? Involve the children in sorting the items.
- Refer to www.norfolkrecycles.com/my-recycling-bin to check accuracy
- Bring out the difficult items and explain what they are. Tell the class that they are going to help their families/teachers to find out whether they can recycle them

Activity

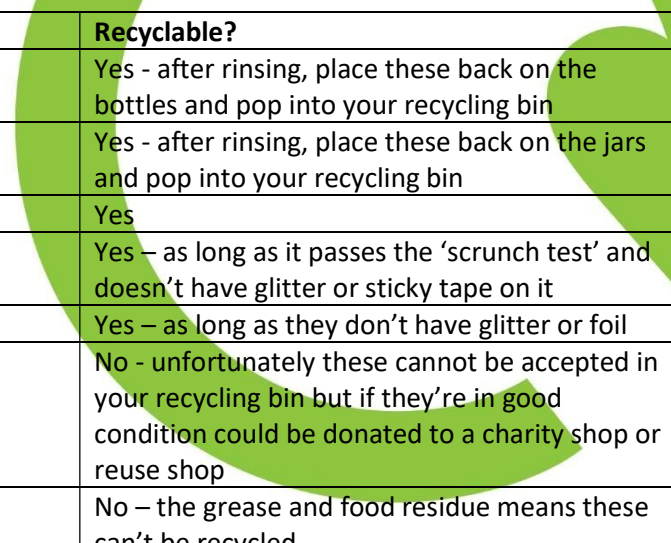
- Using the information on the Norfolk Recycles website and leaflets (also downloadable from the website), ask pupils to work in groups to investigate whether the items identified as tricky can go in the recycling bin (please check the website/leaflet beforehand to see if the item is covered, if not please email us in advance for some advice) at waste.management@norfolk.gov.uk
- Once pupils have found out whether the items can be placed in their home recycling bins, they can make a fact sheet/poster to show what can and can't go in

Plenary

- Go through each difficult item saying whether it can go in the recycling bin
- As an extension pupils could suggest other ways of dealing with the items that can't go in the home recycling bin rather than throwing them away (e.g. an item of clothing could go in a clothes bank, a carrier bag could be reused or, for something like a crisp packet, they could think about how to reduce the waste they cause by buying bigger packs and decanting small amounts into reusable tubs or substituting for something that comes in recyclable packaging or with no packaging)



Common examples of items people find difficult to recycle



Item	Recyclable?
Bottle tops	Yes - after rinsing, place these back on the bottles and pop into your recycling bin
Jar lids	Yes - after rinsing, place these back on the jars and pop into your recycling bin
Shredded paper	Yes
Wrapping paper	Yes – as long as it passes the ‘scrunch test’ and doesn’t have glitter or sticky tape on it
Greetings cards	Yes – as long as they don’t have glitter or foil
Drinking glasses	No - unfortunately these cannot be accepted in your recycling bin but if they’re in good condition could be donated to a charity shop or reuse shop
Takeaway pizza box (used)	No – the grease and food residue means these can’t be recycled
Carrier bags	No – please do not put your recycling into carrier bags. Carrier bags cannot go in your recycling bin but you could reuse them or place them in the carrier bag recycling point at the local supermarket
Trigger spray bottles	Yes – rinse the bottle then replace the trigger spray top and pop the whole thing into your recycling bin
Envelopes with windows	Yes
Biodegradable film wrapping (from magazines etc)	No – this cannot be recycled and also should not be placed in your garden bin. Unfortunately this needs to be placed in the rubbish bin
Aerosol cans	Yes – you can put them in your recycling bin
Plastic flower pots	No – unfortunately these should not be placed in your recycling bin. Instead you could try donating them to a local school or gardening club