

# Grades 6-8

## **A Lot of Litter – 45 Minutes**

Students will do an activity to learn about litter and simple ways they can help prevent litter and the problems litter causes. Students may create simple graphs from litter data. Following our discussion, we will perform a short play about litter prevention. A two-act play, read by students in class, teaches the sources of litter. In the play, a family solves a litter problem in their neighborhood. In Act II of the play, most of the litter habits are described in litter poems. Students speak clearly and listen carefully as they communicate their message to the audience.

## **Don't Step On Litter – 45 Minutes**

Students cooperate in groups as they play a board game. They identify causes of litter and good and bad litter habits as they move from “start” to the “recycling center.” Students make computations to move an appropriate number of spaces during the game.

## **Mining and Recycling – 45 Minutes**

Students will classify materials that can or cannot be recycled and practice determining the materials that can be recycled. Natural resource use and conservation information will help the students determine how human activities impact the environment. Students read a list of consumer items and rank order the value of the items. They conduct research to identify the natural resources used to make their favorite item and from a list of resources used to make an automobile, they identify which materials are common recyclables. Students manipulate materials to simulate a mining operation using chocolate chip cookies. They analyze information and compute figures to determine the financial and environmental costs of obtaining natural resources from the Earth.

## **Resources – 45 Minutes**

This presentation reviews natural resources: renewable vs. non-renewable. They will learn how recycling helps conserve natural resources and play the game “Show ‘Em Sherlock” to understand properties of various recyclables.

Ohio Learning Standard 4.LS.1 – Changes in an organism’s environment are sometimes beneficial to its survival and sometimes harmful.

## **Edible Landfills – 45 Minutes**

Students will learn how trash is managed with an emphasis on sanitary landfills. The construction process and technology behind landfills is shown as the participants build their own landfill model out of food items. This landfill can then be eaten at the end of the presentation!

## **Composting – 45 Minutes**

Students will learn about what composting is and what the different parts of the compost need to consist of. After the discussion, we will make a 3D Compost pile with a full student participation.

## **Attracted to Recycling – 45 Minutes**

Students will review about the 3 R’s and natural resources coming from the recycled items (paper from trees, glass from sand, etc.) After our discussion each student will assist in using recycled paper to make molds of different animals. The end result will be a refrigerator magnet made from the recycled paper.