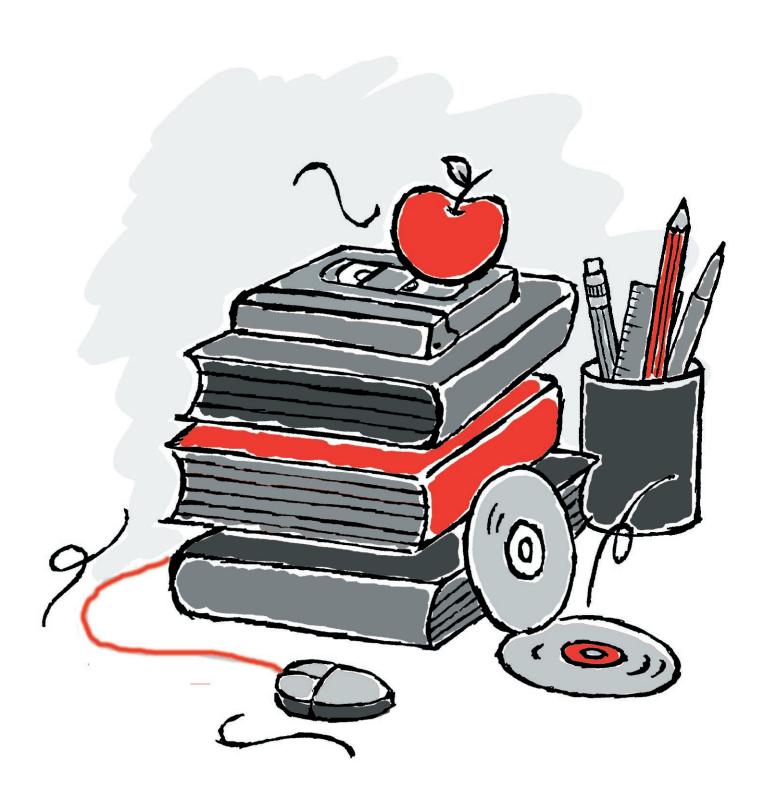


# A Resource Guide of Solid Waste Educational Materials



# **Contents**

|   | Page |
|---|------|
| Introduction                                  | i    |
| Solid Waste Educational Materials             | 1    |
| Glossary                                      | 27   |
| Index of Bibliographic References by Key Word | 29   |
| Index of Bibliographic References by Format   | 36   |

Introduction

This bibliography contains nearly 50 solid waste-related educational materials for teachers and students

in kindergarten through the twelfth grade. It includes curricula, activity guides, coloring books, videos,

and Internet sites that contain information on a variety of solid waste topics such as source reduction,

recycling, reuse, household hazardous waste, and composting (see the index on page 27 for a complete

list of solid waste topic areas covered). All of the materials can be used in a classroom or after-school

setting.

In evaluating materials to include in the bibliography, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

used the following criteria:

Contains information on key solid waste topic areas

■ Contains recent information (i.e., 1990 or later)

■ Contains information for teachers and students

Contains no gross inaccuracies

The bibliography includes resources developed by industry associations, educational institutes, state

governments, environmental groups, and other organizations. As a whole, it presents a balanced

perspective on topics covered.

EPA would like to learn from you of additional solid waste-related educational materials. Feel free to

send a review copy of an educational material to EPA's RCRA Information Center at the address below.

EPA will periodically update this bibliography to include additional materials that meet the above

criteria.

RCRA Information Center (5305W)

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

401 M Street, SW.

Washington, DC 20460

A Resource Guide of Solid Waste Educational Materials

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## **Solid Waste Educational Materials**

Title: Bill Nye the Science Guy: Garbage

**Publisher:** Disney Educational Productions

105 Terry Drive, Suite 120 Newton, PA 18940-3425

800 295-5010

**Date Published:** 1996

**Cost:** \$49.95

**Audience:** Students in grades 3 through 8

Format: Video

**Key Words:** Composting, hazardous waste, household hazardous waste, industrial waste,

littering, packaging issues, product life cycle, recycling, reuse, solid waste

management, source reduction

**Abstract:** In this video, Bill Nye and his troop of young scientists tackle the issue of garbage

during 26 minutes of fast-paced practical information. The participants explain how all living things produce waste, but that the amount and the type of waste that humans produce pose a threat to other organisms. Nye distinguishes between biodegradable and nonbiodegradable waste and advises viewers on how to reduce, reuse, and recycle before filling more landfill space. The program covers a wide range of related topics, including pollution, hazardous waste disposal, and

threatened animals. The video concludes with a clever parody of Aretha Franklin's song, "RESPECT," entitled "RECYCLE." The tape also includes an episode on

biodiversity.

Title: Closing the Loop: Integrated Waste Management Activities for

School and Home (K through 12 Edition)

**Publisher:** Chadbourne & Chadbourne, Inc.

18554 Haskins Road

Chagrin Falls, OH 44023-1823 216 543-7303 or 800 484-7949+1993

**Date Published:** 1993

**Cost:** \$32 plus \$3 shipping and handling

**Audience:** Teachers of grades K through 12

Format: Curriculum

**Key Words:** Composting, hazardous waste, household hazardous waste, littering, packaging

issues, recycling, reuse, solid waste management, source reduction

**Abstract:** This comprehensive 439-page curriculum includes activities that can be adjusted for

different grade levels and across subject areas. Activities cover issues such as solid waste; alternatives to incineration and landfilling; developing a school reduction, reuse, and recycling program; and ozone depletion. The curriculum also includes several activities that students can perform at home to learn about waste management. It can be used in conjunction with the Administrator's Manual (\$14), a handbook for schools to use in planning, designing, and implementing a waste

management program. The curriculum is also available in Spanish.

Title: Come Along to Trash-to-Treasure Land

Publisher: Environmental Hazards Management Institute

10 Newmarket Road Durham, NH 03824

603 868-1496 or 800 558-EHMI

**Date Published:** 1996

**Cost:** \$0.75 each; minimum order of 100

**Audience:** Students in grades K through 3

Format: Coloring book/Activity guide

**Key Words:** Composting, recycling, reuse, source reduction

**Abstract:** This 12-page coloring and activity book introduces children to reducing, reusing,

and recycling. It includes a crossword puzzle, word search, maze, and space for

children to draw their own pictures.

Title: Community Activity Sheets

**Publisher:** Steel Recycling Institute

Foster Plaza, Number 10 680 Andersen Drive

Pittsburgh, PA 15220-2700

800 876-SCRI

Date Published: 1997

Cost: No cost

**Audience:** Teachers and students in grades K through 6, community groups

Format: Activity guide

**Key Words:** Recycling

**Abstract:** These sheets lead young people through various exercises, games, and explanations

that help them learn about recycling steel and other materials.

Title: Composting Matters

**Publisher:** Environmental Hazards Management Institute

10 Newmarket Road Durham, NH 03824

603 868-1496 or 800 558-EHMI

**Date Published:** 1995

**Cost:** \$0.75; minimum order of 100

**Audience:** Students in grades K through 3

Format: Coloring book/Activity guide

**Key Words:** Composting

**Abstract:** This 12-page coloring and activity book includes information about what can and

cannot be composted, how compost piles should be maintained, and what can be

done with finished compost.

Title: Cornell Composting/Composting in Schools

**Publisher:** The Cornell Waste Management Institute

Cornell Center for the Environment

http://www.cfe.cornell.edu/compost/schools.html

Date Published: April 1997

Cost: No cost

**Audience:** Teachers and students in grades K through 12

**Format:** Internet site

**Key Words:** Composting, recycling

**Abstract:** This Web site provides a variety of resources for teachers and students. For

teachers, it provides background information on composting, lab activities for the classroom (such as monitoring the composting process or observing compost invertebrates), information on indoor composting (such as classroom activities involving worm composting). It also suggests activities to incorporate composting lessons into language arts, math, sciences, geography, social studies, and other subject areas. For students, this site provides fun and interesting sites such as

information about "weird and unusual composting."

Title: Cycles for Science: Materials for High School Science

Publisher: Steel Recycling Institute

Foster Plaza, Number 10 680 Andersen Drive

Pittsburgh, PA 15220-2700

800 876-SCRI

Date Published: 1996

**Cost:** \$12.75 each

**Audience:** Teachers of grades 9 through 12

Format: Curriculum

**Key Words:** Composting, recycling

**Abstract:** This high-school curriculum supplement targets different subject areas, including

biology, chemistry, earth science, and physics. Topics include composting with worms, sorting commingled metals, and prospecting for ore. The series also includes information about community volunteer projects, such as school recycling,

appliance recycling, and food salvage.

Title: Development and Environmental Education Curriculum Directory

**Publisher:** The American Forum for Global Education

http://eelink.umich.edu/ncode/html.dir/

**Date Published:** 1995

**Cost:** \$4 to \$8

**Audience:** Teachers and students in grades K through 12

**Format:** Internet site

**Key Words:** Household hazardous waste, recycling, solid waste management

**Abstract:** This site includes a list of environmental education resources in science, social

studies, arts, and other subject areas. Many of these resources deal with global interrelated environmental issues and discuss waste or resource use. Only a few resources under the heading "social studies" are directly related to waste, however. These resources include documents that can be ordered about household wastes, recycling, and space garbage. Resources listed also include books and multimedia materials produced by a variety of publishers, including Concern, Inc., and Cornell

University.

Title: E2: Environment and Education/Environmental ACTION

**Publisher:** E2: Environment and Education

800 872-1100 Fax: 914 328-5487

http://www.enviroaction.org/action.html

Date Published: 1997

**Cost:** \$5.95 per book for student and \$13.95 per book for teacher. (Discounts provided for

quantity orders.)

**Audience:** Teachers of grades 5 through 12

Format: Curriculum

**Key Words:** Composting, household hazardous waste, recycled or green products, recycling,

reuse, source reduction

**Abstract:** Environmental ACTION is a science-based interdisciplinary environmental

curriculum for middle and secondary school students. The curriculum provides students and teachers with a step-by-step process for learning about environmental issues and their impact on human health and environmental quality. The program contains six modules. One of these, "Waste Reduction," covers recycling, composting, waste reduction, and waste management. Another, "Chemicals: Choosing Wisely," covers household hazardous wastes and environmentally friendly alternatives to them. Each module includes a teacher's resource guide and student edition. Information for teachers includes how to use the program, time requirements, crosscurricular activities, and more (click on "Teacher Information").

Student information also is provided, including one section on "Buying Green." Users of the page can learn how to purchase the curriculum by clicking on

"Ordering Information."

Title: EarthAware: Environmental Awareness Software

Publisher: EnviroAccount Software

605 Sunset Court Davis, CA 95616

http://www.dcn.davis.ca.us/go/earthaware/

Date Published: 1995

Cost:

\$49.95 (Macintosh) or \$69.96 (Windows). Software can be ordered via the Internet

address. (Discounts provided for quantity orders.)

**Audience:** Teachers and students in grades 7 through 12

**Format:** Computer software

**Key Words:** Hazardous waste, household hazardous waste, packaging issues, product life cycle,

recycled or green products, solid waste management

**Abstract:** EarthAware inspires students to think about their resource use through a series of

activities relevant to the environment. This program has six sections, including "Consumerism" and "Waste." Each section contains questions with answers, information, and resources. After each section, an analysis screen summarizes the EarthAware score. Each user receives a score, a rating, a carbon dioxide budget, and recommendations for areas to be improved. This software is described and

advertised on the Web site listed above.

Title: Eco-Detectives: Teaching About the Economics of the

**Environment** 

**Publisher:** National Council on Economics Education

1140 Avenue of the Americas

New York, NY 10036

800 338-1192

http://www.perc.org/eco.htm

**Date Published:** 1996

**Cost:** \$15

**Audience:** Teachers and students in grades 7 through 12

Format: Curriculum

**Key Words:** Recycling, reuse, solid waste management

**Abstract:** Eco-Detectives is an 18-lesson curriculum that introduces students to a productive

way of thinking about environmental problems, including solid waste. The lessons address environmental problems as mysteries worthy of investigation. A sample

chapter is provided on the Web site listed above.

Title: ENC Resource Finder

**Publisher:** Eisenhower National Clearinghouse

http://www.enc.org/

**Date Published:** No date provided

Cost: Varies

**Audience:** Teachers of grades K through 12

**Format:** Internet site

**Key Words:** Composting, hazardous waste, packaging issues, recycling, reuse, solid waste

management

**Abstract:** Funded by the U.S. Department of Education, this clearinghouse is a repository for

information on math and science curriculum materials. Upon reaching this site, users should type "waste" into the search engine. What follows is a list of more than

400 resources, although not every one is about waste. Those that cover waste are produced by a variety of sources including industry, teacher associations, and local or state governments. Resources include multimedia products (including CD-ROMs) print publications, and posters that cover a wide variety of subject areas. For example, one resource is a lesson developed for grades 8 through 11 that teaches students how to safely dispose of a hazardous waste by using pertinent data on the chemical's physical and hazardous properties obtained from Material Data Safety Sheets or personal observation. Other topics include underground storage tanks, recycling at school, landfills (including making an edible landfill), composting, recycling, and reuse. Each listing provides a description of the resource, the grades it targets, the cost for ordering, and other information.

Title: Environmental Education: Compendium for Integrated Waste

Management

**Publisher:** California Integrated Waste Management Board

8800 Cal Center Drive, MS 12

Sacramento, CA 95826

916 255-2826

Publication No.: 50253001

**Date Published:** 1993

Cost: No cost

**Audience:** Teachers of grades K through 12

Format: Compendium

**Key Words:** Household hazardous waste, recycling, solid waste management

**Abstract:** This 100-page compendium of waste management instructional materials contains

information that aids teachers in acquiring accurate and up-to-date curricula that portray the waste management challenges and dilemmas facing many communities. In addition to providing ordering information, this compendium includes summaries of the educational exercises involved in each curriculum, teacher/peer review report cards or evaluations of the curriculum, and samples of some of the activities for students. The book is divided into categories of educational materials appropriate for different grade levels. Materials may require some degree of adaptation for use

depending on the students' geographical location.

Title: Environmental Protection on Native American Lands

**Publisher:** The Center for Indian Community Development

**Humboldt State University** 

Arcata, CA 95521 707 826-3711

Date Published: 1995

**Cost:** \$25 donation requested

**Audience:** Teachers of grades 1 through 12

Format: Curriculum

**Key Words:** Composting, hazardous waste, history of garbage, household hazardous waste,

packaging issues, recycled or green products, recycling, solid waste management,

source reduction, sustainability

**Abstract:** This 300-page curriculum is targeted at teachers of Native American children on

rural tribal lands. It includes 52 lessons and related activities on various topics, including solid waste, hazardous waste, recycling, composting, and vermiculture. It also includes lessons on air and water pollution. Student worksheets, "problem" sheets, and survey forms are included, as are suggested curriculum areas, teaching

times, and materials required for each lesson or activity.

Title: E Patrol

**Publisher:** E Patrol Foundation (International Organization for Kids)

http://www.sprint.com/epatrol/

Date Published: 1995

Cost: No cost

**Audience:** Teachers and students in grades K through 12

Format: Internet site
Key Words: Recycling

**Abstract:** The E Patrol Foundation is an independent, not-for-profit organization created to

help teach children how to solve and prevent environmental problems. Through identification with this international group, students can share information and successful programs and be recognized for their efforts. This Web site offers the opportunity for students to test their knowledge on waste reduction issues. It also allows teachers to request information, including an extensive environmental curriculum now being used in camps, youth organizations, and schools.

Title: "Garbage Grows Great Plants" in *Science and Children*, Vol. 33,

No. 7, pp. 20-22, 35

**Publisher:** National Science Teachers Association

1840 Wilson Boulevard Arlington, VA 22201-3000

800 722-NSTA

**Date Published:** April 1996

**Cost:** \$6.50 to \$7 for back issue (limited quantity). Call for permission to photocopy for

other than classroom use.

**Audience:** Teachers of grades K through 12

Format: Article

**Key Words:** Composting

**Abstract:** This four-page magazine article provides a recipe for teaching students about

compost in the classroom. A teacher recounts his experience setting up a composting lesson with his eighth grade class. He describes introducing the students to the concepts of recycling and composting, relating the subject of composting to lesson plans in sixth through eighth grade, discussing what composting is used for, developing a recipe for materials to use in compost, bringing in materials and using materials generated at school for compost, and recording scientific observations in changes in the compost pile. The author also explains how his students used the final product on landscaped areas at school.

Title: Garbology: Activities for Students K through 12

**Publisher:** Office of Environmental Education

Florida Gulfcoast University

1311 Paul Russell Road, Suite 201A

Tallahassee, FL 32301

850 487-7900

Date Published: 1990

**Cost:** No cost for one copy

**Audience:** Teachers of grades K through 12

**Format:** Activity book

**Key Words:** Composting, reuse, solid waste management

**Abstract:** This 50-page book provides step-by-step instructions for classroom-tested

approaches to hands-on teaching. It provides a number of activities using plastic beverage bottles, including constructing bottle greenhouses, terrariums, and

aquariums. The book also provides activities that deal specifically with solid waste,

such as a compost column and mini-landfills. The premise is to reuse items for teaching science.

Title: The Global Thinking Project

**Publisher:** Department of Middle/Secondary Education and Instructional Technology

Georgia State University Atlanta, GA 30303 404 651-2518

http://teaparty.terc.edu/comweb/globalthinking/home/globthinking.htm

**Date Published:** No date provided

**Cost:** \$75 per school year. Teacher's Guide is \$35.

**Audience:** Teachers and students in grades 5 through 12, after-school leaders

Format: Project kit

**Key Words:** Solid waste management

**Abstract:** The Global Thinking Project (GTP) is a "hands across the globe" education project

that provides students and teachers with the opportunity to participate in environmental study and to communicate with students and teachers in other countries. During the course of the project, students learn to monitor and analyze important physical and biological aspects of their environment such as weather, climate change, air pollution, acid rain, ozone, solid waste management, and global warming. They are given a kit to help them conduct these activities. Teachers can use GTP in a variety of settings, including science and social studies classes, afterschool or club activities, and community groups such as the Girl Scouts. GTP has created cross-cultural teaching materials that have been field tested in more than

100 schools and with thousands of students over the past 7 years.

Title: The Great Minnesota Garbage Game

**Publisher:** Minnesota Office of Environmental Assistance

520 Lafayette Road North, Second Floor

Saint Paul, MN 55155-4100 612 215-0232 or 800 877-6300

Fax: 612 215-0246

Date Published: 1992

**Cost:** No cost for a 2-week loan. Borrower pays return postage.

**Audience:** Students in grades 7 through 12

Format: Video

**Key Words:** Composting, hazardous waste, household hazardous waste, littering, packaging

issues, product life cycle, recycled products, recycling, recycling economics, reuse,

solid waste management, source reduction

**Abstract:** This 16-minute video is a companion piece to the Office of Environmental

Assistance's "What a Waste" curriculum for the secondary grades (see page 25). In a game format, the narrator presents students with five waste management problems and then challenges them to find solutions. The problems include methods of garbage disposal, ways to reduce packaging, and requirements for running a

recycling program. The interactive format assigns point values for either individual

or group participants and rewards students for creative responses.

Title: The HenryCycle Special

**Publisher:** The Media Guild

11722 Sorrento Valley Road, Suite E

San Diego, CA 92121

800 886-9191 or 619 755-9191

Fax: 619 755-4931

Publication No.: 99822

Date Published: 1996

**Cost:** \$225 (Discounts provided for quantity orders.)

**Audience:** Students in grades K through 4

Format: Video

**Key Words:** Composting, packaging issues, recycled products, recycling, recycling

economics, reuse, source reduction

**Abstract:** This award-winning 23-minute animated video features the adventures of

HenryCycle, "the superhero of recycling." Henry and the colorful characters of Ima Hippo and Brown Derby Burglar show how purchasing peanut butter in larger jars or switching from paper plates to china can make a difference. The video is an entertaining story for younger elementary students that offers tips on recycling, shows how to cut down on waste around the house and in the yard, and gives ideas

to reduce waste on every trip to the store.

Title: "Ideas: Recycling" in *Arithmetic-Teacher*, Vol. 41, No. 9,

pp. 534-543

**Publisher:** National Council of Teachers of Mathematics

1906 Association Drive Reston, VA 20191-1593

800 235-7566

Date Published: May 1994

**Cost:** \$4 for article reprint, plus \$3 shipping and handling

**Audience:** Teachers of grades K through 8

Format: Article

**Key Words:** Recycling

**Abstract:** This 10-page article focuses on the connections among mathematics, the

environment, and the conservation of natural resources. Each activity provides opportunities for communicating, reasoning, and problem solving as students become personally involved in conserving natural resources. The activities help students incorporate aspects of sorting, graphing, measuring, and collecting into their work. Students will also learn to interpret data, evaluate consumer habits, and

apply the concepts they have learned.

Title: Innovations for Science Classrooms

**Publisher:** *Science and the Environment* 

Voyage Publishing

901 North Columbus Street Alexandria, VA 22314

703 299-9575

http://www.voyagepub.com/publish/innovate.htm

Date Published: No date provided

Cost: No cost

**Audience:** Teachers of grades K through 12

**Format:** Internet site

**Key Words:** Hazardous waste, solid waste management

**Abstract:** This site presents five educational activities that can be implemented as 1- to 2-

week units or 2- to 3-day mini-units. The principal idea behind each of these environmental activities is to elicit critical thinking skills (imagination, analysis, synthesis, and integration) from students through an interactive environment. Activities include a debate, a problem and solution exercise, a geographic game, an

exercise about consumer choices and the environment, and environmental

"Jeopardy." Each of these exercises can be used to teach about any environmental

topic, including any aspect of solid or hazardous waste.

Title: Kidswheel™ on Hazardous Household Products

**Publisher:** Environmental Hazards Management Institute

10 Newmarket Road Durham, NH 03824

603 868-1496 or 800 558-EHMI

Date Published: 1995

Cost: \$1.59; minimum order 10

**Audience:** Students in grades 4 through 6

**Format:** Information wheel

**Key Words:** Household hazardous waste

**Abstract:** This colorful wheel educates students about potentially hazardous products at home

and school, including paints, arts and crafts products, pesticides, and household cleaners. Information about the products' hazardous properties is included, as well as suggestions for less toxic alternatives. The wheel emphasizes the necessity of

reading product labels to identify hazardous properties.

Title: "A Lesson Plan on Recycling" in *EPA Journal*, Vol. 18, No. 3,

pp. 54-56

**Publisher:** U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

401 M Street, SW. Washington, DC 20460

800 424-9346 or 703 412-9810

**Publication No.:** EPA530-K-95-007

**Date Published:** July/August 1992

Cost: No cost

**Audience:** Teachers of grades 7 through 12

Format: Curriculum

**Key Words:** Recycling, solid waste management

**Abstract:** This three-page lesson plan covers some of the major topics regarding recycling and

solid waste management, including defining municipal solid waste (MSW),

discussing the disposal of MSW, defining recycling, and discussing what materials are recyclable. It provides instructions and suggestions for the teacher, such as how

to explain the recycling symbol, as well as ideas for conducting classroom

activities.

Title: Less Waste in the First Place: Six Lessons on Packaging and

**Source Reduction** 

**Publisher:** Flexible Packaging Educational Foundation

Attention: Publication Manager

1090 Vermont Avenue, NW., Suite 500

Washington, DC 20005-4960

202 842-3880

Date Published: 1994

**Cost:** \$5 for members, \$10 for nonmembers, free to classroom instructors

**Audience:** Teachers of grades K through 12

**Format:** Activity guide

**Key Words:** Packaging issues, product life cycle, source reduction

**Abstract:** The lessons contained in this 48-page guide provide students with a basic

understanding of the scientific and environmental principles that govern package design and development. By completing the activities that accompany each of the lesson plans, students will be able to define a package and describe its functions, differentiate among types of packages, describe how modern packaging evolved, understand the scientific, social, and environmental considerations that affect the design of a package, discuss how packaging helps consumers reduce the amount of garbage they throw away, define and identify different types of barriers to reducing waste, and define source reduction. The lessons are intended to supplement existing

curricula in science, ecology, and home economics.

Title: MOBIUS Curriculum: Understanding the Waste Cycle

(Third Edition)

**Publisher:** Browning-Ferris Industries

Attention: Community Affairs

757 North Eldridge P.O. Box 3151 Houston, TX 77253 281 870-7461

**Date Published:** 1995

Cost: No cost

**Audience:** Teachers of grades 4 through 6

Format: Curriculum

**Key Words:** Composting, history of garbage, packaging issues, recycling, reuse, solid waste

management, source reduction, sustainability

helps students learn about the cyclical nature of the environment. Students learn about landfills, incinerators, composting, recycling, groundwater contamination, the history of garbage, and packaging choices. The curriculum provides lessons for each topic area that outline the concepts and skills addressed, materials needed, materials supplied, and instructions. It also provides topics for class discussion, science activities, and math and logic problems. It also includes team-building and leadership activities.

Title: The Museum of Solid Waste and Energy

**Publisher:** National Energy Education Development (NEED) Project Headquarters

P.O. Box 2518 Reston, VA 20195 703 471-6263

**Date Published:** 1997

**Cost:** \$3.50

**Audience:** Teachers of grades 5 through 9

**Format:** Activity book

**Key Words:** Composting, packaging issues, recycling, reuse, solid waste management, source

reduction

**Abstract:** The NEED Project is a nonprofit corporation dedicated to educating students,

teachers, and the community about energy and environmental issues. Using this 60-page activity guide, students create a museum with eight exhibits, or "stations," on different solid waste and energy topics. They work in small groups of two to four students to prepare each exhibit. Background information on each of the topics is provided; students decide which displays to include and write scripts for how the

displays will be presented to other students.

Title: Nature's for Me

**Publisher:** Steel Recycling Institute

Foster Plaza, Number 10 680 Andersen Drive

Pittsburgh, PA 15220-2700

800 876-SCRI

Date Published: 1994

**Cost:** \$12

**Audience:** Teachers of grades K through 3

**Format:** Activity guide

**Key Words:** Recycling

**Abstract:** Geared towards young children, this activity guide provides interactive exercises,

reference materials, and extension activities (including crafts, poetry, and songs) that give children the opportunity to develop skills in classification, numbers, representation, time, and spacial relations. Items relevant to solid waste include two

recycling coloring activities and recycling awareness lesson plans.

Title: Nature's Recyclers

**Publisher:** Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, Education Section

Recycling Publications CE/6

PO Box 7921

Madison, WI 53707 608 266-2711

Publication No.: IE043

Date Published: 1991

**Cost:** No cost for one copy

**Audience:** Teachers of grades K through 12

Format: Activity guide

**Key Words:** Composting, recycling

**Abstract:** This 30-page activity guide introduces students to the notion that recycling is a part

of nature. Activities help students draw the connection between natural and human

recycling and illustrate the role people play in recycling natural resources.

Activities are designed for both home and school. Games, crafts, and plays are also

included. A coloring book (publication number IE042) is also available.

Title: Newton's Apple: Garbage

**Publisher:** KTCA Twin Cities Public Television, 3M, and National Science Teachers

Association

http://www.ktca.org/newtons/11/garbage.html

Date Published: 1996

Cost: No cost

**Audience:** Teachers and students in grades K through 12

**Format:** Internet site

**Key Words:** History of garbage, packaging issues, recycling, reuse, solid waste management

**Abstract:** This classroom exercise provides general information about garbage, municipal

solid waste, recycling, and disposal. It presents thought questions, a list of

vocabulary words, additional sources of information, materials needed for the exercise, and instructions. It also suggests ideas for other activities.

Title: Newton's Apple: Hazardous Materials

**Publisher:** KTCA Twin Cities Public Television, 3M, and National Science Teachers

Association

http://www.ktca.org/newtons/13/hazmat.html

Date Published: 1996

Cost: No cost

**Audience:** Teachers and students in grades K through 12

**Format:** Internet site

**Key Words:** Hazardous waste

**Abstract:** This classroom exercise presents information about spills and hazardous wastes,

discussion questions, key words and definitions, additional resources, and a classroom activity in which students build a lakeshore and try to stop hazardous waste from spreading through it. The activity includes a list of materials needed

and instructions. Additional classroom ideas are presented as well.

Title: The No Waste Anthology: A Teacher's Guide to Environmental

**Activities, K through 12** 

**Publisher:** California Environmental Protection Agency

Department of Toxic Substances Control

Office of External Affairs PO Box 806 (HQ-5)

Sacramento, CA 95812-0806

916 324-3614

Date Published: 1991

**Cost:** \$10

**Audience:** Teachers of grades K through 12

**Format:** Activity book

**Key Words:** Composting, hazardous waste, household hazardous waste, littering, packaging

issues, recycling, reuse, source reduction

**Abstract:** This 320-page teacher's manual is organized into three sections: natural resources

and pollution, solid waste, and hazardous waste. Numerous activities covering a range of solid and hazardous waste topics appear in each section. Each activity provides background information, procedures, and discussion questions. Goals, subjects covered, classroom time needed, and materials required are also presented.

Several of the activities are taken from other sources (several of which predate 1990), and all of the activities have been field tested and peer reviewed.

Title: "Primary Place: Math Projects that Count" in *Instructor*, Vol. 102,

No. 8, pp. 56 and 63

Publisher: Scholastic, Inc.

Attn: Marilyn Small

555 Broadway

New York, NY 10012-3999

800 325-6149

**Date Published:** May/June 1993

**Cost:** Write for permission to photocopy

**Audience:** Teachers of grades K through 4

Format: Article

**Key Words:** Recycling, reuse

**Abstract:** This two-page article describes three simple projects that integrate elementary

arithmetic principles with recycling and reuse activities. Two of the projects involve estimating, measuring, and the use of graph paper; the third project teaches how to use commonly found recyclables to construct an object. The goals of these exercises are to combine mathematics skills and recycling knowledge and also to encourage

recycling if the classroom is currently not participating in recycling efforts.

Title: "Project Reconstruct" in *Science and Children*, Vol. 31, No. 7,

pp. 25-28

**Publisher:** National Science Teachers Association

1840 Wilson Boulevard Arlington, VA 22201-3000

800 722-NSTA

Date Published: April 1994

**Cost:** \$6.50 to \$7.00 for back issue. Call for permission to photocopy.

**Audience:** Teachers of grades K through 8

Format: Article

**Key Words:** Packaging issues, recycling, reuse

**Abstract:** This four-page article presents a hands-on classroom activity. It is a

multidisciplinary unit that integrates language, science, mathematics, computers, and artistic expression. Students monitor their use of trash, input and analyze information with a database and computerized graphics, and reconstruct extinct or

endangered animals. Students are asked to monitor certain recyclable items generated by their household for 1 week. These data are entered into the database for analysis with bar charts and pie graphs. In the end, students use recyclable materials to create an art project. The article describes the process used to teach a second-grade class about extinct and endangered animals; the human impact on the environment; and the role of packaging, recycling, and reuse in protecting the environment.

Title: Recycle City

**Publisher:** EPA Region 9

http://www.epa.gov/region09/recyclecity/

Date Published: 1997

Cost: No cost

**Audience:** Students in grades K through 12

**Format:** Internet site

**Key Words:** Composting, hazardous waste, industrial waste, recycled or green products,

recycling, reuse, solid waste management, source reduction, unit

pricing

**Abstract:** This site provides a graphic of a town. Users can click on different parts of the

town—such as the hazardous waste center, auto wrecking yard, or manufacturing plant—to learn detailed information about many aspects of recycling, reuse, and waste reduction. This site also provides a game in which students are responsible for managing and cleaning up Dumptown to turn it into Recycle City. Students learn about the current waste stream, recovered waste, and a variety of hazardous waste management programs. They also learn about municipal budgeting. All of the games and locations have been designed to enable a teacher to match different goals with lessons being taught in class. The "Activities" section recommends ways to

use this site in the classroom.

Title: Recycle This!

**Publisher:** The Dow Chemical Company

2040 Dow Center Midland, MI 48674 800 441-4369

**Date Published:** 1990

Cost: No cost

**Audience:** Students in grades 4 through 12

Format: Video

**Key Words:** Recycling, reuse, solid waste management, source reduction

**Abstract:** This 37-minute video uses music, skits, and a game show entitled "Environmental

Jeopardy" to discuss the dangers of rapidly depleting landfill space. Beginning with the theme song of "We Didn't Start the Landfills," the film presents statistics on plastic, glass, and aluminum recycling as well as information on biodegradable substances and their contribution to landfill space. Although the music and movie references are slightly outdated for students currently in grades 4 through 12, the format is fun and engaging. Actors play several different characters on a high

school stage and involve their student audience in the production.

Title: Recycling Slide Show

**Publisher:** Center for Renewable Energy and Sustainable Technology

and Waste Management, Inc.

http://crest.org/environment/gotwh/general/recycle-slides/index.html

**Date Published:** December 1995

Cost: No cost

**Audience:** Teachers and students in grades K through 12

Format: Slides

**Key Words:** History of garbage, recycled or green products, recycling, reuse, solid waste

management, source reduction

**Abstract:** This 176-slide presentation is an introduction to recycling. It is image-intensive,

with photographs and charts that teach children about recycling. It provides an annotation for each slide, but the teacher can include additional information as well.

The slide show presents information about recyclable materials, collection,

landfills, policy, and education. It promotes the benefits of recycling in an easy-tounderstand manner and also explains the hierarchy of waste management. Text and

slides appear on the Web site listed above.

Title: Recycling Study Guide (Third Edition)

**Publisher:** Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, Education Section

Recycling Publications CE/6

P.O. Box 7921 Madison, WI 53707 608 266-2711

Publication No.: IE020

Date Published: 1993

**Cost:** No cost for one copy

**Audience:** Teachers of grades 4 through 12

**Format:** Activity guide

**Key Words:** Composting, packaging issues, product life cycle, recycling, recycling economics,

reuse, solid waste management, source reduction

**Abstract:** This 36-page guide includes information and activities on the amount of solid waste

generated by residents of Wisconsin, strategies for preventing waste and conserving natural resources, and a discussion of how solid waste is disposed of. Several activities in the guide closely examine packaging issues, encouraging students to investigate the purpose of packaging and to examine how products can be packaged differently to minimize waste. A historical perspective on solid waste is also

differently to minimize waste. A historical perspective on solid waste is also presented. The guide encourages students to consider how changing technologies

and lifestyles over time affect the amount of waste generated.

Title: Reduce, Reuse, Recycle: It's Elementary

**Publisher:** Illinois Department of Commerce and Community Affairs

Information and Distribution Center

620 East Adams Street Springfield, IL 62701

217 785-0310 Fax: 217 785-6454

Date Published: 1991

**Cost:** Available on loan

**Audience:** Students in grades K through 6

Format: Video

**Key Words:** Composting, packaging issues, product life cycle, recycled or green products,

recycling, reuse, solid waste management, source reduction

**Abstract:** This 20-minute video examines the solid waste problem, particularly in the state of

Illinois. It discusses the "NIMBY" (Not In My Backyard) attitude and provides

some solutions to the problem. The video focuses on an elementary classroom presentation with visual explanations of waste reduction, reuse, and recycling. It gives some examples of recycling and composting efforts at specific elementary schools. It also provides tips for setting up a school recycling program, emphasizing student involvement.

Title: Ring Leader Recycling

**Publisher:** ITW Hi-Cone

http://www.ringleader.com/menu/program.html

Date Published: 1995

Cost: No cost

**Audience:** Teachers and students in grades K through 12

Format: Educational program

**Key Words:** Recycling

**Abstract:** The Ring Leader Recycling Program is an educational program designed for

implementation in both formal and informal educational environments to allow students to learn about and participate in "closed-loop" recycling, or recycling a used product into a new product of the same type. Teachers can order a Ring Leader Recycling Kit and join the Ring Leader Recycling Program (along with 8,500 other schools). At the bottom of the page, users can choose "The Quest" for a student cyber-adventure called "The Quest of the Ring Leaders." This is an environmental education program set in an adventure game format to help students gain an understanding about the current environmental problems and the preventative measures to stop environmental degradation. Classroom supplements are available for free download to members of the Ring Leader Recycling Program. Supplements include overheads, worksheets, certificates, lesson plans, and activities designed to enhance the Quest of the Ring Leaders, the Ring Leader Recycling Program, and

other environmental education activities.

Title: Safe House, Safe Me

**Publisher:** California Integrated Waste Management Board

Public Affairs Office

8800 Cal Center Drive, MS 12

Sacramento, CA 95826

916 255-2826

Publication No.: 50094046

Date Published: 1994

Cost: No cost

Audience: Teachers of grades K through 3

Format: Coloring book

**Key Words:** Household hazardous waste, solid waste management

**Abstract:** This easy-to-read 12-page coloring book focuses on the proper use, storage, and

disposal of hazardous household products. Children color in pictures of people and animals affected by or involved in hazardous product management. Activities are designed to demonstrate proper handling and disposal practices. Large and clear

lettering is used to aid in reading and understanding.

Title: Searching SEEK (Sharing Environmental Education Knowledge)

**Publisher:** State of Minnesota

http://www.seek.state.mn.us/search/search.cfm

**Date Published:** No date provided

Cost: Varies

Audience: Teachers of grades K through 12

Format: Internet site

**Key Words:** Composting, hazardous waste, history of garbage, household hazardous waste,

recycling, reuse, source reduction

Abstract: This is a clearinghouse for environmental education resources. The user can click

> on "Individual Quick Searches" and then, under "Title or Abstract Keyword," type "Waste." What follows is a list of educational resources, many of which are about

solid waste. Examples include "A-Way With Waste: A Waste Management

Curriculum for Schools," from the Washington State Department of Ecology, which

is a comprehensive, multilesson waste management curriculum for grades K through 12; a video with Bill Nye the Science Guy about garbage; and a video presentation of the play, "Mama Earth and the Rockin' Rs," which is an interactive forum for information on the 3 Rs and how children can make a difference in their

world. Ordering, price, and contact information is provided.

Title: **Waste in Time** 

**Publisher:** The Media Guild

11722 Sorrento Valley Road, Suite E

San Diego, CA 92121

800 886-9191 or 619 755-9191

Fax: 619 755-4931

Publication No.: 99813

**Cost:** \$210 (Discounts provided for quantity orders.)

**Audience:** Students in grades 4 through 8

Format: Video

**Key Words:** Packaging issues, product life cycle, recycling, reuse, solid waste management,

source reduction

**Abstract:** Juliette, a young teenager from the present, is magically transported to the

underground world of a landfill. She is joined by two companions, one from the future and one from the past. Juliette finds that the most important thing she can do is prevent trash from being created in the first place. This 22-minute video emphasizes the importance of one person's efforts to reduce, reuse, and recycle while tracing recycling from efforts in the 1970s to present-day capabilities.

Title: Waste Wise: Concepts in Waste Management: A Resource Guide

for Teachers Using Concepts of Critical Thinking and Decision

**Making** 

**Publisher:** Information Clearinghouse

Aseptic Packaging Council

P.O. Box 3794

Washington, DC 20007

800 277-8088

http://www.aseptic.org

Date Published: 1995

Cost: No cost

**Audience:** Teachers of grades K through 12

**Format:** Activity guide

**Key Words:** Composting, packaging issues, product life cycle, recycling, reuse, solid waste

management, source reduction

**Abstract:** Activities in this 48-page guide focus on the volume of waste generated in the

United States, options for handling waste, the purpose of packaging, decisions about packaging, and the life cycle of the aseptic package. For example, students are given an opportunity to learn about the relationship between the weight of product and package, discuss the economics of packaging choices, and explore how

products are marketed. Student handouts are also included.

Title: What a Waste: A Teacher's Resource for Integrating the Solid

**Waste Crisis Into the Classroom** 

**Publisher:** Southwest Connecticut Regional Recycling Operating Committee

1410 Honeyspot Road Extension

Stratford, CT 06497

203 381-9571

Date Published: 1992

**Cost:** \$10.95, plus \$3.00 shipping and handling for one to five copies

**Audience:** Students in grades 3 through 6

Format: Curriculum

**Key Words:** Composting, packaging issues, recycling, reuse, solid waste management, source

reduction

**Abstract:** This 100-page curriculum is divided into two sections. In the first section, students

examine the root of the solid waste problem and learn about different waste management methods. The second section introduces students to concrete solutions and strategies they can use to reduce the amount of waste generated. For example, in one lesson students learn how to reduce waste by buying products with minimal or recyclable packaging. Lessons in the second section also describe how various

materials are recycled and how composting works.

Title: Worms Eat Our Garbage: Classroom Activities for a Better

**Environment** 

**Publisher:** Flower Press

10332 Shaver Road Kalamazoo, MI 49002

616 327-0108

http://www.wormwoman.com

Date Published: 1993

**Cost:** \$21.95

**Audience:** Teachers and students in grades K through 12

Format: Curriculum guide/Activity book

**Key Words:** Composting, recycling, solid waste management

**Abstract:** This curriculum guide and activity book are designed to help elementary and middle

school educators teach about composting with earthworms. The 215-page book teaches the physical characteristics, behaviors, needs, and habitat of the earthworm. It also teaches students how to set up and maintain a worm bin, understand the processes of vermicomposting, make and test hypotheses, record observations, interpret data, and arrive at conclusions. It provides worksheets with quizzes;

activities; questions and answers; and games that integrate science with art, reading, mathematics, geography, language arts, and history.

Title: Yes, I CAN!

Publisher: Steel Recycling Institute

Foster Plaza, Number 10 680 Andersen Drive

Pittsburgh, PA 15220-2700

800 876-SCRI

Date Published: 1996

**Cost:** \$10.95

**Audience:** Teachers of grades K through 3

Format: Video

**Key Words:** Recycling

**Abstract:** This video relates a story about a steel can that is purchased, used, and either

recycled or disposed of. An educator's guide accompanies the video and contains

ideas for interactive exercises.

# **Glossary**

This glossary includes terms that appear in the key words in the above references and in the index on pages 29 to 35.

## Composting

The controlled decomposition of organic matter (such as food scraps and yard trimmings) in the presence of oxygen into a soil-like material.

#### **Hazardous waste**

Waste with explosive, ignitable, corrosive, or toxic characteristics.

#### Household hazardous waste

Products containing hazardous substances that are used and disposed of by individual rather than industrial consumers. These products include some paints, solvents, and pesticides.

#### **Industrial waste**

Nonhazardous wastes produced during manufacturing operations.

## **Product life cycle**

All of the steps it takes to manufacture, distribute, use, and dispose of a product.

#### Recycling

Separating, collecting, processing, marketing, and ultimately using a material that would have been thrown away.

#### Recycling economics

The cost expenditures and savings associated with recycling and providing recycling services.

#### Reuse

The use of a product more than once in its same form or for the same purpose or for different purposes, such as reusing a soft-drink bottle when it is returned to the bottling company for refilling, or reusing a coffee can as a container for nuts and bolts.

#### Source reduction

The design, manufacture, purchase, or use of materials to reduce the amount and/or toxicity of waste. Source reduction techniques include reusing items, minimizing the use of products that contain hazardous compounds, using only what is needed, extending the life of a product, and reducing unneeded packaging.

## **Sustainability**

Meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs.

## **Unit pricing**

A system whereby residents pay for municipal waste management services per unit of waste collected rather than through a fixed fee.

# Index of Bibliographic References by Key Word

## Composting

Bill Nye the Science Guy: Garbage

Closing the Loop: Integrated Waste Management Activities for School and Home (K through 12 Edition)

Come Along to Trash-to-Treasure Land

**Composting Matters** 

Cornell Composting/Composting in Schools

Cycles for Science: Materials for High School Science E2: Environment and Education/Environmental ACTION

**ENC Resource Finder** 

Environmental Protection on Native American Lands "Garbage Grows Great Plants" in *Science and Children* 

Garbology: Activities for Students K through 12

The Great Minnesota Garbage Game

The HenryCycle Special

MOBIUS Curriculum: Understanding the Waste Cycle (Third Edition)

The Museum of Solid Waste and Energy

Nature's Recyclers

The No Waste Anthology: A Teacher's Guide to Environmental Activities K through 12

Recycle City

Recycling Study Guide (Third Edition) Reduce, Reuse, Recycle: It's Elementary

Searching SEEK (Sharing Environmental Education Knowledge)

Waste Wise: Concepts in Waste Management: A Resource Guide for Teachers Using Concepts of Critical Thinking and Decision Making

What a Waste: A Teacher's Resource for Integrating the Solid Waste Crisis into the Classroom

Worms Eat Our Garbage: Classroom Activities for a Better Environment

#### **Hazardous waste**

Bill Nye the Science Guy: Garbage

Closing the Loop: Integrated Waste Management Activities for School and Home (K through 12 Edition)

EarthAware: Environmental Awareness Software

**ENC** Resource Finder

Environmental Protection on Native American Lands

The Great Minnesota Garbage Game Innovations for Science Classrooms Newton's Apple: Hazardous Materials

The No Waste Anthology: A Teacher's Guide to Environmental Activities K through 12

Recycle City

Searching SEEK (Sharing Environmental Education Knowledge)

## History of garbage

Environmental Protection on Native American Lands

MOBIUS Curriculum: Understanding the Waste Cycle (Third Edition)

Newton's Apple: Garbage Recycling Slide Show

Searching SEEK (Sharing Environmental Education Knowledge)

#### Household hazardous waste

Bill Nye the Science Guy: Garbage

Closing the Loop: Integrated Waste Management Activities for School and Home (K through 12

Edition)

Development and Environmental Education Curriculum Directory

E2: Environment and Education/Environmental ACTION

EarthAware: Environmental Awareness Software

Environmental Education: Compendium for Integrated Waste Management

Environmental Protection on Native American Lands

The Great Minnesota Garbage Game

Kidswheel<sup>TM</sup> on Hazardous Household Products

The No Waste Anthology: A Teacher's Guide to Environmental Activities K through 12

Safe House, Safe Me

Searching SEEK (Sharing Environmental Education Knowledge)

#### Industrial waste

Bill Nye the Science Guy: Garbage

Recycle City

## Littering

Bill Nye the Science Guy: Garbage

Closing the Loop: Integrated Waste Management Activities for School and Home (K through 12

Edition)

The Great Minnesota Garbage Game

The No Waste Anthology: A Teacher's Guide to Environmental Activities K through 12

## **Packaging issues**

Bill Nye the Science Guy: Garbage

Closing the Loop: Integrated Waste Management Activities for School and Home (K through 12

Edition)

EarthAware: Environmental Awareness Software

**ENC Resource Finder** 

Environmental Protection on Native American Lands

The Great Minnesota Garbage Game

The HenryCycle Special

Less Waste in the First Place: Six Lessons on Packaging and Source Reduction

MOBIUS Curriculum: Understanding the Waste Cycle (Third Edition)

The Museum of Solid Waste and Energy

Newton's Apple: Garbage

The No Waste Anthology: A Teacher's Guide to Environmental Activities K through 12

"Project Reconstruct" in Science and Children

Recycling Study Guide (Third Edition) Reduce, Reuse, Recycle: It's Elementary

Waste in Time

Waste Wise: Concepts in Waste Management: A Resource Guide for Teachers Using Concepts of

Critical Thinking and Decision Making

What a Waste: A Teacher's Resource for Integrating the Solid Waste Crisis Into the Classroom

## **Product life cycle**

Bill Nye the Science Guy: Garbage

EarthAware: Environmental Awareness Software

The Great Minnesota Garbage Game

Less Waste in the First Place: Six Lessons on Packaging and Source Reduction

Recycling Study Guide, Third Edition Reduce, Reuse, Recycle: It's Elementary

Waste in Time

Waste Wise: Concepts in Waste Management: A Resource Guide for Teachers Using Concepts of

Critical Thinking and Decision Making

## Recycled or green products

E2: Environment and Education/Environmental ACTION

EarthAware: Environmental Awareness Software Environmental Protection on Native American Lands

The Great Minnesota Garbage Game

The HenryCycle Special

Recycle City

Recycling Slide Show

Reduce, Reuse, Recycle: It's Elementary

## Recycling

Bill Nye the Science Guy: Garbage

Closing the Loop: Integrated Waste Management Activities for School and Home (K through 12 Edition)

Come Along to Trash-to-Treasure Land

**Community Activity Sheets** 

Cornell Composting/Composting in Schools

Cycles for Science: Materials for High School Science

Development and Environmental Education Curriculum Directory

E2: Environment and Education/Environmental ACTION

Eco-Detectives: Teaching About the Economics of the Environment

**ENC Resource Finder** 

Environmental Education: Compendium for Integrated Waste Management

Environmental Protection on Native American Lands

E Patrol

The Great Minnesota Garbage Game

The HenryCycle Special

"Ideas: Recycling" in Arithmetic-Teacher

"A Lesson Plan on Recycling" in EPA Journal

MOBIUS Curriculum: Understanding the Waste Cycle (Third Edition)

The Museum of Solid Waste and Energy

Nature's for Me

Nature's Recyclers

Newton's Apple: Garbage

The No Waste Anthology: A Teacher's Guide to Environmental Activities K through 12

"Primary Place: Math Projects that Count" in *Instructor* 

"Project Reconstruct" in Science and Children

Recycle City

Recycle This!

Recycling Slide Show

Recycling Study Guide (Third Edition) Reduce, Reuse, Recycle: It's Elementary

Ring Leader Recycling

Searching SEEK (Sharing Environmental Education Knowledge)

Waste in Time

Waste Wise: Concepts in Waste Management: A Resource Guide for Teachers Using Concepts of Critical Thinking and Decision Making

What a Waste: A Teacher's Resource for Integrating the Solid Waste Crisis Into the Classroom

Worms Eat Our Garbage: Classroom Activities for a Better Environment

Yes, I CAN!

## **Recycling economics**

The Great Minnesota Garbage Game

The HenryCycle Special

Recycling Study Guide (Third Edition)

#### Reuse

Bill Nye the Science Guy: Garbage

Closing the Loop: Integrated Waste Management Activities for School and Home (K through 12 Edition)

Come Along to Trash-to-Treasure Land

E2: Environment and Education/Environmental ACTION

Eco-Detectives: Teaching About the Economics of the Environment

**ENC Resource Finder** 

Garbology: Activities for Students K through 12

The Great Minnesota Garbage Game

The HenryCycle Special

MOBIUS Curriculum: Understanding the Waste Cycle (Third Edition)

The Museum of Solid Waste and Energy

Newton's Apple: Garbage

The No Waste Anthology: A Teacher's Guide to Environmental Activities K through 12

"Primary Place: Math Projects that Count" in Instructor

"Project Reconstruct" in Science and Children

Recycle City

Recycle This!

Recycling Slide Show

Recycling Study Guide (Third Edition)

Reduce, Reuse, Recycle: It's Elementary

Searching SEEK (Sharing Environmental Education Knowledge)

Waste in Time

Waste Wise: Concepts in Waste Management: A Resource Guide for Teachers Using Concepts of Critical Thinking and Decision Making

What a Waste: A Teacher's Resource for Integrating the Solid Waste Crisis Into the Classroom

## Solid waste management

Bill Nye the Science Guy: Garbage

Closing the Loop: Integrated Waste Management Activities for School and Home (K through 12 Edition)

Development and Environmental Education Curriculum Directory

EarthAware: Environmental Awareness Software

Eco-Detectives: Teaching About the Economics of the Environment

**ENC Resource Finder** 

Environmental Education: Compendium for Integrated Waste Management

Environmental Protection on Native American Lands

Garbology: Activities for Students K through 12

The Global Thinking Project

The Great Minnesota Garbage Game

**Innovations for Science Classrooms** 

"A Lesson Plan on Recycling" in EPA Journal

MOBIUS Curriculum: Understanding the Waste Cycle (Third Edition)

The Museum of Solid Waste and Energy

Newton's Apple: Garbage

Recycle City Recycle This!

Recycling Slide Show

Recycling Study Guide (Third Edition)
Reduce, Reuse, Recycle: It's Elementary

Safe House, Safe Me

Waste in Time

Waste Wise: Concepts in Waste Management: A Resource Guide for Teachers Using Concepts of Critical Thinking and Decision Making

What a Waste: A Teacher's Resource for Integrating the Solid Waste Crisis Into the Classroom

Worms Eat Our Garbage: Classroom Activities for a Better Environment

#### Source reduction

Bill Nye the Science Guy: Garbage

Closing the Loop: Integrated Waste Management Activities for School and Home (K through 12 Edition)

Come Along to Trash-to-Treasure Land

E2: Environment and Education/Environmental ACTION

Environmental Protection on Native American Lands

The Great Minnesota Garbage Game

The HenryCycle Special

Less Waste in the First Place: Six Lessons on Packaging and Source Reduction

MOBIUS Curriculum: Understanding the Waste Cycle (Third Edition)

The Museum of Solid Waste and Energy

The No Waste Anthology: A Teacher's Guide to Environmental Activities K through 12

Recycle City Recycle This!

Recycling Slide Show

Recycling Study Guide (Third Edition)

Reduce, Reuse, Recycle: It's Elementary

Searching SEEK (Sharing Environmental Education Knowledge)

Waste in Time

Waste Wise: Concepts in Waste Management: A Resource Guide for Teachers Using Concepts of Critical Thinking and Decision Making

What a Waste: A Teacher's Resource for Integrating the Solid Waste Crisis Into the Classroom

# Sustainability

Environmental Protection on Native American Lands MOBIUS Curriculum: Understanding the Waste Cycle (Third Edition)

# **Unit pricing**

Recycle City

# Index of Bibliographic References by Format

#### **Print**

Closing the Loop: Integrated Waste Management Activities for School and Home (K through 12 Edition)

Come Along to Trash-to-Treasure Land

**Community Activity Sheets** 

**Composting Matters** 

Cycles for Science: Materials for High School Science E2: Environment and Education/Environmental ACTION

Eco-Detectives: Teaching About the Economics of the Environment

Environmental Education: Compendium for Integrated Waste Management

Environmental Protection on Native American Lands "Garbage Grows Great Plants" in *Science and Children* 

Garbology: Activities for Students K through 12

"Ideas: Recycling" in Arithmetic-Teacher

Kidswheel<sup>TM</sup> on Hazardous Household Products

"A Lesson Plan on Recycling" in EPA Journal

Less Waste in the First Place: Six Lessons on Packaging and Source Reduction

MOBIUS Curriculum: Understanding the Waste Cycle (Third Edition)

The Museum of Solid Waste and Energy

Nature's for Me

Nature's Recyclers

The No Waste Anthology: A Teacher's Guide to Environmental Activities K through 12

"Primary Place: Math Projects that Count" in Instructor

"Project Reconstruct" in Science and Children

Recycling Study Guide (Third Edition)

Safe House, Safe Me

Waste Wise: Concepts in Waste Management: A Resource Guide for Teachers Using Concepts of Critical Thinking and Decision Making

What a Waste: A Teacher's Resource for Integrating the Solid Waste Crisis Into the Classroom

Worms Eat Our Garbage: Classroom Activities for a Better Environment

#### Video

Bill Nye the Science Guy: Garbage The Great Minnesota Garbage Game

The HenryCycle Special

Recycle This!

Reduce, Reuse, Recycle: It's Elementary

Waste in Time Yes, I CAN!

#### Internet

Cornell Composting/Composting in Schools

Development and Environmental Education Curriculum Directory

ENG Programs Finder

**ENC Resource Finder** 

E Patrol

**Innovations for Science Classrooms** 

Newton's Apple: Garbage

Newton's Apple: Hazardous Materials

Recycle City

Searching SEEK (Sharing Environmental Education Knowledge)

#### Other

EarthAware: Environmental Awareness Software

The Global Thinking Project (project kit)

Recycling Slide Show

Ring Leader Recycling (multi-media program)