

Making the Right Choices (Years 5-6)

Learning Objectives:

By the end of this session pupils should have learnt:

- That waste issues are complex and all solutions have advantages and disadvantages
- About some of the issues surrounding why people do and do not reduce, reuse and recycle

Learning Outcomes:

Pupils will be able to:

- Explain why they made a certain choice
- Identify the advantages and disadvantages of choices they made in terms of the waste it produces

National Curriculum Links:

English KS2:

- En1 Speaking & listening . *speaking, listening, group discussion & interaction*

Citizenship & PSHE:

- Preparing to play an active role as citizens . *discuss topical issues, sustainable resource use*
- QCA Unit 02: Choices

Cross Curricular:

- Education for Sustainable Development
- Sustainable Schools: Doorway 4 . Waste & Purchasing

Resources Needed:

- Copies of ~~M~~aking the right choice questions to discuss (see below)

Activity Guidelines:

1. Divide the class into small groups of four or five and give each group a different question to discuss. Ask them to discuss what they think would be the best thing to do in the different situations. Remind them about the order of the 3Rs and how it is best to reduce (not make any waste in the first place), reuse and then recycle our rubbish.
2. Ask one or two children from each group to present their choices to the rest of the class. As there may be several ~~correct~~ answers, the class should discuss the pros and cons of each choice, with particular attention to the waste it produces.
3. This should lead to some discussions about why people may not always follow the 3Rs, e.g. people forget to take bags when they go shopping, sometimes the ~~best choice~~ might be too expensive or not practical.
4. Finish by telling the children that if we all remember the 3Rs we can hopefully make the ~~right choice~~ whenever possible and that all these small actions put together have a big positive effect on the environment.

Making the right choice

1. You have finished with a piece of paper that you have used on one side.

Do you:

- a) Keep it and use the other side for another piece of work?
- b) Put it in the recycling bin?
- c) Put it in the scrap paper tray?
- d) Use it to make a model in art?
- e) Throw it in the bin?



2. You have bought some new trainers. The shop assistant puts them in a cardboard box and puts the box in a plastic bag.

Do you:

- a) Ask her not to wrap up the trainers and put them straight into your rucksack?
- b) Accept the plastic bag but say you don't need the box?
- c) Take everything home and save the shoe box and plastic bag to be reused?
- d) Take everything home and put all the packaging including the bag into the bin?
- e) Throw your old trainers into the bin?



3. Your mum has sent you to the shop to buy 4 pints of milk.

Do you:

- a) Go to the supermarket and select 4 small one pint plastic bottles?
- b) Go to the supermarket and select 1 big four pint plastic bottle?
- c) Put the plastic bottles into the bin when they are empty?
- d) Recycle the plastic bottles when they are empty?
- e) Ask your mum to get milk delivered in glass bottles?



4. You bring a packed lunch to school each day.

Do you:

- a) Ask your mum to buy big bags of raisins/biscuits so you can put a few in a small plastic box each day?
- b) Not care about how the food is packed and just put all the rubbish in the bin?
- c) Make your own lunch and refill a water bottle with juice?
- d) Recycle all the rubbish at the end of the day?
- e) Ask your mum if you can have school dinners?

