

Recycling Solution

Focus Questions

1. Before watching the BTN story discuss what you know about recycling.
2. What recycling goal is Ashlee's school trying to achieve?
3. Why are some overseas countries not accepting Australia's recycling anymore? Give one reason.
4. Complete the following sentence. A lot of our recycling is now ending up in _____.
5. Who did Ashlee interview in the BTN story?
6. What is the Australian Government going to do to help solve the issue?
7. What do you think can be done to solve the problem?
8. What questions do you have about recycling for the leaders of Australia?
9. Investigate how your school recycles and deals with waste. What improvements could be made?
10. How did this story make you feel? Discuss in pairs and then share your thoughts with the class.

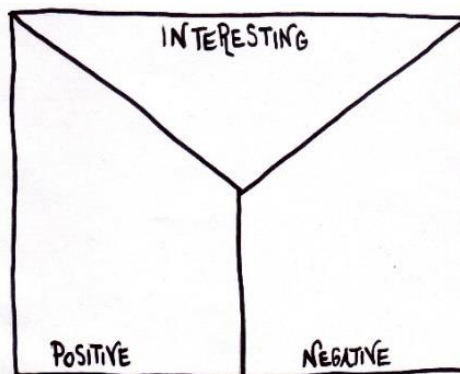
Activity

Note taking

Students will practise their note-taking skills while watching the BTN *Recycling Solution* story. After watching the story, ask students to reflect on and organise the information into three categories.

What information in the story was...?

- Positive
- Negative or
- Interesting



Activity

Class Discussion

Discuss the BTN *Recycling Solution* story as a class and record the main points on a mind map with 'recycling' at the centre. Students will then respond to the following and share their ideas as a class.

- How did this story make you feel? Make of a list of words that describe how you felt after watching this story.

Key Learning

Students will reflect on ways that recycling and waste is managed at their school. Students will explore how kids are making a difference on an environmental issue.

Curriculum

Geography – Year 4

The use and management of natural resources and waste, and the different views on how to do this sustainably.

HASS – Year 4

Reflect on learning to propose actions in response to an issue or challenge and consider possible effects of proposed actions.

HASS – Year 7

Reflect on learning to propose personal and/or collective action in response to an issue or challenge, taking into account different perspectives, and describe the expected effects.

The use and management of natural resources and waste, and the different views on how to do this sustainably.

Science – Year 4

Science knowledge helps people to understand the effect of their actions.

Science – Year 5 & 6

Scientific knowledge is used to solve problems and inform personal and community decisions.

Science – Year 7







Scientific knowledge has changed peoples' understanding of the world and is refined as new evidence becomes available.

- Think of three questions you would like to ask about the story. Remember that good questions are open-ended (have no right or wrong answer and can't be answered with a 'yes' or 'no').
- What would you ask the Prime Minister on the topic of recycling if you had the opportunity?
- What does recycling mean to you? Leave your comment on the BTN *Recycling Solution* story page.

Activity

Six Hat Thinking

As a class, use Edward De Bono's *Six Hat Thinking* to explore the recycling problem in Australia. Students will take it in turns answering questions in relation to what they already know about the issue, what they have learned from the BTN *Recycling Solution* story and what else they want to learn about the topic. Ask students to respond to the following questions:

 feelings and emotions	How did the <i>Recycling Solution</i> story make you feel?
 facts and information	What do you know about recycling? What have you learnt from the story?
 positives	Were there any positives from the story? If so, what were they?
 negatives	What are some of the negatives or challenges that you learnt from the story?
 creativity	Why is it important to find out more about the issue?
 thinking about thinking	What questions were raised during this activity? What do you want to learn further about this topic?

Reflection

After this activity, ask students to reflect on what they have learnt. Students can include details about how their thinking on this issue has changed and why they think we should act.

Activity

Recycling test

As a class, brainstorm the different types of waste produced at your school, for example:

- Paper
- Plastic – lunch wrappers, drink containers etc
- Food scraps
- Plant clippings
- Electronic items – mobile phones, computer screens etc
- Batteries
- Printer cartridges
- Newspapers

Do your students know which of these items can be recycled? Test your students by asking which items can be recycled and which recycling bin it should be placed. Students can go to this [website](#) to learn more about recycling and test their recycling skills.

Activity

Reduce your waste

Do your part to make a change and challenge yourself by having a 'waste-free lunch' or 'nude food' for a day or a week.

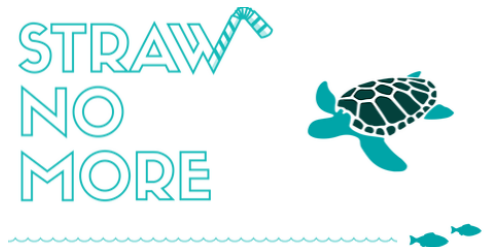
- Think of ways that you can avoid or reduce the amount of packaging you use. For example, putting food in reusable containers instead of disposable bags, and avoiding pre-packaged food.
- Did you find this challenge difficult? Why or why not? Explain.
- How has this challenge impacted on your thinking?
- What can you do to take action?
 - Reduce the amount of packaging
 - Buy food that has little or no packaging (wherever possible)
 - Buy food in bulk and put into reusable containers
 - Write to food companies asking them to reduce the amount of packaging or change to environmentally friendly packaging.



Activity

Kids making a difference

Students will investigate ways they can make a difference to the problem of plastic pollution. Working in pairs brainstorm some solutions to the problem. For example, conducting a beach clean-up or reducing the amount of plastic packaging they use. They can take a look at kids who are making a difference on an environmental issue. Watch BTN's [Straw no More](#) story.



BTN has featured kids who are passionate about the issue with these stories: [Plastic Ocean Campaigner](#), [Plastic Bag Ban](#) and [War on Waste School](#). Discuss ways to present the information. Some ideas include:

- Make a news report. Visit the [BTN Rookie Reporter page](#) for some ideas.
- Create a website using [Wix](#)
- Create a podcast using [PodOmatic](#), [Buzzsprout](#) to share with the school community.

Useful Websites

Recycling Problem – BTN

<https://www.abc.net.au/btn/classroom/recycling-problem/11229340>

Chinese Recycling Ban – BTN

<https://www.abc.net.au/btn/classroom/chinese-recycling-ban/10521842>

War on Waste School – BTN

<https://www.abc.net.au/btn/classroom/war-on-waste-school/10522784>

Plastic Pollution Problems – BTN

<https://www.abc.net.au/btn/classroom/plastic-pollution-problems/10488932>

Recycling – ABC Education

<https://education.abc.net.au/home#!/topic/495996/recycling>