

Recycling

Worksheet Teacher's notes

1. "We do not inherit the Earth from our Ancestors, we borrow it from our Children" is an ancient Indian proverb. What does it mean? Do you agree with its message? What does it imply? How should our actions reflect the truth of the proverb?

We should take care of the planet as it is not ours, we use it only for the time being and it is our responsibility to leave it in a good shape for the future generations.

2. Have you ever heard of a 3Rs rule? Go to: <http://kids.niehs.nih.gov/explore/reduce/> and find out what it stands for. What can we do to apply each R in our life?

Reduce Reuse Recycle- students' own answers concerning environment protection.

3. Read the text and answer the questions:

Don't throw it away!¹

People didn't use to throw things away. We used to mend our clothes and we used to wear shoes until they wore out. When we bought things, we used to carry shopping baskets, so we didn't need countless plastic bags. And we didn't use to buy so much in the first place.

But now we consume more and more and so we produce more rubbish. The UK is one of the worst recyclers in Europe but the Recycle Now campaign aims to change that. Its series of TV commercials shows the recycling of metal cans, glass bottles and paper into interesting everyday items. One ad shows a town with cars, trains, buildings and even planes made of metal cans.

Top UK designer Oliver Heath is a strong supporter of the campaign- in 2005 he designed the first home constructed entirely from recycled materials, including yoghurt pots and glass bottles. And he is excited by the imaginative recycling of waste. "There is an awful lot of exciting design stuff out there. I like all the new uses for ordinary products- plastic bottles turned into fleeces, glass bottles into bricks, rubber car tyres into pencil cases and carpets, plastic cups into pencils." You can also buy pens made from recycled computer printers, rulers made from juice cartons, jewellery made from plastic bags, and bags made from bottle tops or CDs. So don't throw things away! All the items you recycle are valuable resources and can be made into something useful, even stylish and fun. As Recycle Now says: "The possibilities are endless!"

- Why did we use to buy fewer clothes and shoes? *We used to mend clothes and use them longer.*
- Why didn't we need plastic bags? *We had shopping baskets we took with us.*
- Why do we tend to produce more rubbish now? *Because we buy more.*
- What does the Recycle Now campaign aim to do? *Encourage people to recycle more.*
- What recycled materials did Oliver Heath use in the home he designed? *Yoghurt pots and glass bottles.*

4. Go to <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jgqB1t-CAb0> and watch the advert. Go to <http://www.oliverheath.com/> and read about Oliver Heath and his eco designs.

5. Go to <http://www.squidoo.com/reuse-everything> and read how can you recycle everyday items. Have you tried any of the ideas before? Do you find them useful?

Students' own answers.

¹ taken from Inspiration, pre-intermediate, J. Garton-Sprenger, P.Prowse, Macmillan, MEN nr 126/06, p.70