

Wake up to Waste

Workshop description:

This introductory workshop uses colourful, hands-on resources that will help students to understand the problems caused by our throw-away society and how they can help to solve them. Students will go away wanting a recycled present for their next birthday!

Summary of workshop:

- “What’s it made of?” game looking at recycled objects.
- Presentation about landfill and 3Rs.
- “Eco House” spot the difference.

Time: 50mins-1hr15mins

Number of students: 10-40

Suitable for years: 7-13

Common misconceptions:

- That recycled objects aren’t desirable.
- Confusion surrounding the difference between reusing and recycling.
- That a recycling logo on an item only means it is recyclable when sometimes it might actually indicate that the item is made from recycled materials.

Learning outcomes

By the end of the workshop pupils should be able to:

- Give at least one reason why we should follow the 3Rs.
- Explain why landfill is not a good way to dispose of our rubbish.
- Say one thing they could change at home to become more environmentally friendly.

Vocabulary: **KS3** -Landfill, incinerate, reduce, reuse, recycle, natural resources, energy
KS4 – Methane, leachate, finite, bauxite

Resources: (All supplied by SWAP unless stated otherwise.)

Projector and laptop **or memory stick if the school has the necessary ICT system in place.**

Bag of recycled objects with labels and blu-tak

Spot the Difference game

Duration

Teaching and Learning activities:

2 mins

Introduce myself, SWAP and what we will be doing in this workshop.

10-15 mins

Pupils work in teams to look at 10 recycled objects and try to guess what they’re made from.

10-15 mins

The class is shown the answers and each team has to pick the answer(s) that match their object(s). They are then told whether they have got them right or not and told a little bit about each object.

15-25 mins

A picture based power point presentation is used to explain how much rubbish we make and where it goes, the problems associated with landfill, the alternatives of reduce, reuse and recycle and how following the 3Rs can save resources and energy. Questioning is used to keep students engaged.

8-10 mins

Pupils play Eco Spot the Difference to see how people in an environmentally friendly house do things differently to a “conventional” house. They decide what changes they could make at home to become more environmentally friendly.

5-8 mins

Each team shares one idea on how to reduce, reuse or recycle.