

Grade 1: How to Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle



Environmental Education
Website: peelregion.ca/enviroed

Teacher Notes:

- “Click” refers to next animation

Region of Peel Services



Teacher Notes:

- Ask students – what city or town do they live in?
 - Let students know the city or town they mentioned is part of a larger area that is called the Region of Peel
 - Region of Peel includes the Town of Caledon and 2 cities – City of Brampton and City of Mississauga
 - Some of the programs and services that the Region of Peel provides to our communities includes:
 - (Click-1) Clean drinking water
 - (Click-2) Maintaining Regional roads, including snowploughing in the winter and paving in the summer
 - (Click-3) Paramedics (ambulance)
 - (Click-4) Police
 - (Click-5) Providing garbage, recycling and organics collection.
- Focus for today: we are going to talk about garbage, recycling, and organics which is called waste management. We are going to learn about what happens to our waste and how to sort it properly.



Teacher Notes:

- Ask students about the different types of waste they create
- Explain to students that waste refers to the different types of places that we throw away our stuff when we are done with it.
- What are the three different types of places that we put our waste?
 - Green bin
 - Recycling
 - Garbage
- Note that students may use a different type of cart/bin for waste at home compared to what they use at school
 - Green bins are not available at condominiums and apartments in the Region of Peel at this time
- Today we are going to talk about things that we use every day and what happens to them when we are done with them.



Teacher Notes:

- Brainstorm with students the a few items that belong in the green bin:
 - Any type of food waste (banana peels, apple cores, chicken bones, etc.)
 - Tissues
 - Paper towel
 - Napkins
 - Paper scraps
- (Click-1) Answer(s)
- Note to students:
 - As there is no green bin at schools, a better place to put food scraps and tissues and napkins, etc., would be in the garbage. Or, students can take waste home that belongs in the green bin.
 - Take items home that belong in green bin.
 - If students don't have a green bin at home, throw it in the garbage.



From this...to that



Teacher Notes:

What happens to the stuff we put in the green bin?

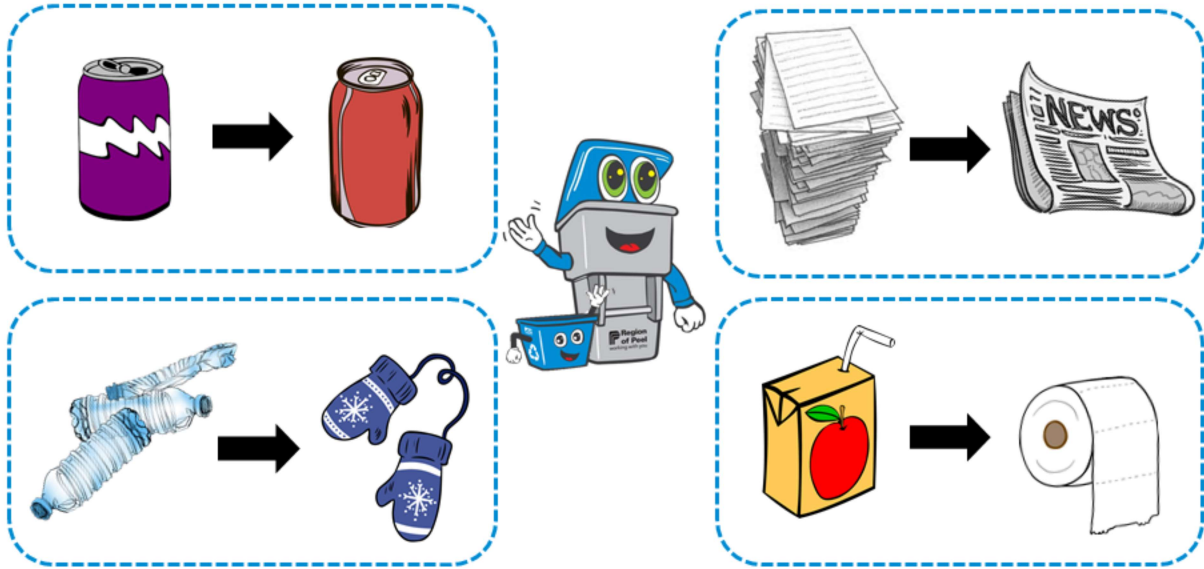
- Explain what happens to the waste we put in the green bin:
 - (Click-1) Everything we put into the green bin goes to a facility where the items get heated and broken down which turns into soil
 - (Click-2) Soil can be used to plant new flowers. Soil can also be used to grow fruits and vegetables



- Refer to the recycling bin in your classroom.
- Brainstorm a few items that we put in the recycling bin:

- Paper
- Plastic bottles
 - Juice bottles
 - Water bottles
- Juice boxes
- Yogurt cups, pudding cups
- Aluminum cans, metal cans
- (Click-1) Answer(s)
- Recycling tips for students:
 - Everything that goes in the recycling must be cleaned first; for example, make sure juice boxes are empty before recycling
 - Paper can be used on both sides before recycling
 - Bottle caps go in the garbage
 - Yogurt tops go in the garbage
 - Straws go in the garbage

From this...to that!



Teacher Notes:

- What happens to our recycling?
 - Everything goes to a factory where the items get sorted so that all the same items are together, and then they get changed into something new
- Examples:
 - (Click-1) Aluminum gets turned into new aluminum cans or parts of bicycles
 - (Click-2) Paper gets turned into new paper like newspaper
 - (Click-3) Plastic bottles can get turned into clothing like t-shirts, winter jackets, mittens, etc.
 - (Click-4) Different parts of a juice box can be separated and turned into items like the paper of a juice box can be turned into toilet paper.
- Explain to students that recycling is important as it gives items we throw away a new life
 - By recycling we turn old items into new things which makes the life of items last longer



Teacher Notes:

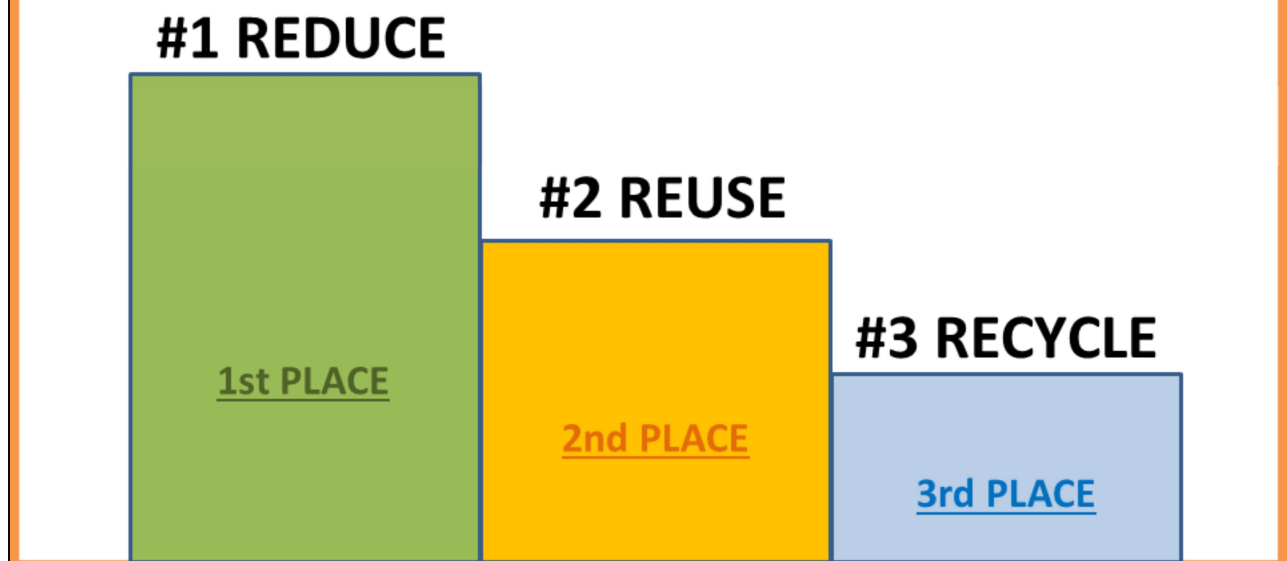
- Refer to the garbage bin in your classroom.
- Brainstorm items that we put in the garbage bin:
 - Snack packaging (Tip: anything that is shiny on the inside, and colourful on the inside):
 - Chip bags
 - Granola bar wrappers
 - Candy wrappers
 - Chocolate wrappers
 - Straws
 - Aluminum foil
 - Kool Aid Jammers
 - Plastic wrap
 - Take out cups (Tim Hortons)
- (Click-1) Answer(s)



Teacher Notes:

- Ask students if they know where everything we put in the garbage goes?
 - “It’s important that we sort our waste properly. Everything that we put in the garbage, goes to a big hole in that ground that is filled with garbage. This is called a landfill.”
 - (Click-1) Show landfill image
- Explain landfill to students
 - A landfill is a very large hole we dig into the ground where we throw all our garbage.
 - Everything in a landfill stays there forever. Once a landfill is all full, we make new landfills.
- Ask students what they see in the image of a landfill.
 - Students might say:
 - Animals
 - Garbage
 - Cardboard, paper that should have been put in the recycling so that it can turn into something new
- Note to students: If we place items that can be recycled or composted into the garbage, we take up space and the landfills will fill up very fast. If landfills fill up, then we have to keep finding new places to create more landfills which takes away from the homes of many different animals.

The 3R's



Teacher Notes:

- Ask students what they think we can do to make less garbage.
- The 3R's help us make less garbage which is good for plants, animals, and people
- Explain the 3R's to students:
 - These are the 3R's – Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle
 - (Click-1) Reduce means to make less of something. So we can reduce our garbage by making smart choices so that we don't have so many things that need to be thrown away. Ex. Think before you ask for a new toy, ask yourself if you need it.
 - (Click-2) Reuse means to use over and over again. Ex. Students using a reusable water bottle instead of single use plastic waste bottle
 - (Click-3) Recycle means to use old waste and to make new things out of it. Ex. When we recycle paper, it gets turned into new paper.
- Explain to students:
 - Making sure that we put our fruits in the green bin, juice boxes in the recycling, and our snack wrappers in the garbage is a way that we can practice the 3R's.
 - When we all practice reducing and reusing and recycling, we are allowing less garbage to go to landfills which takes away from the homes or many animals and plants.



Teacher Notes:

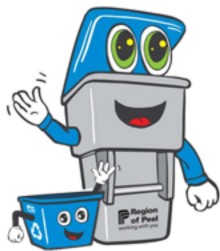
- Introduce the 3R's song to help students remember the 3Rs.
- Guide students to do actions while singing song:
 - Reduce: Place hands out wide and then closer together, just as if you are to clap but stop before clapping. This indicates making something smaller.
 - Reuse: Make a big circle with your pointer finger.
 - Recycle: Roll your fists around each other again and again.

Let's create a green goal! 

#1 Reduce

#2 Reuse

#3 Recycle



Teacher Notes:

- For this activity, students will be creating an action plan for one of the 3R's of their choice.
- Explain what an action plan is.
 - An action plan is a set of actions or things that you will follow to help solve a problem.
 - Example: I will eat my apple when I'm hungry. I will take home any food that I don't finish at lunch.
 - Explain the 3R's in detail.
- Ask each student to pick an R to focus on and write or draw actions showing how they will do that R.
 - "I will Reduce/ Reuse/ Recycle by..."
 - "I will reduce my waste by drawing on two sides of the paper, not just one".
 - "I will reuse my water bottle everyday".
 - "I will recycle all my paper".

Sort it out! Where should your waste go?



Teacher Notes:

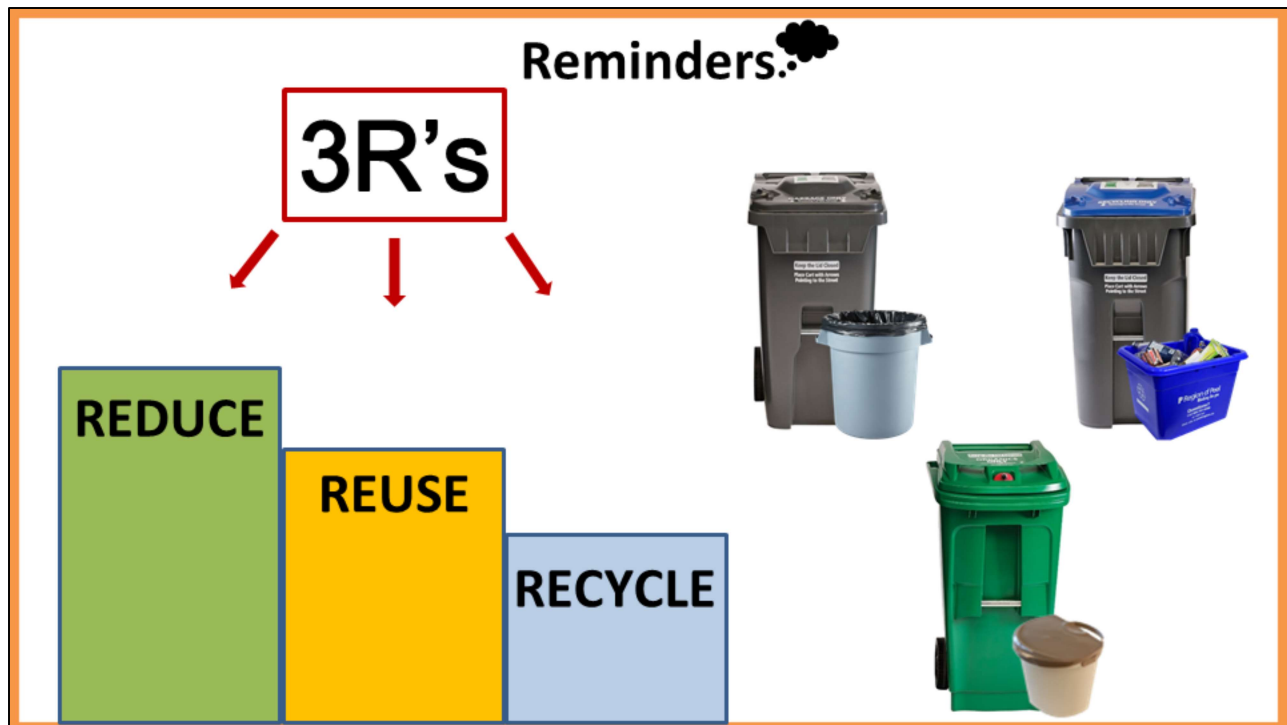
Select an option from below to teach students about sorting garbage, recycling, and green bin:

Virtual Waste Sorting

- Region of Peel's Waste Sorting Game (Online) - <https://wordwall.net/play/5664/743/924>
 - Allow students to do Waste Sorting on their own at home; and/or encourage doing the Waste Sorting Game together as a class.

Worksheet

- Grade 1 – Waste Matchup



Additional Resources

- Looking for ways to extend your learning, check out:
 - peelregion.ca/enviroed
 - [Teach Green in Peel](#)
 - peelregion.ca/waste

