


Toilet Toss

Activity Overview: In this activity, students will participate in a cornhole relay race game to learn what should go down the toilet (3Ps) and what should not go down the drain. Specifically, this game will look at how to properly dispose of FOGs (Fats, Oil, and Grease).

Materials:

- 2 cornhole boards
- 40 bean bags with iron-on photos → 
- Bean Bag Labels: Poo, Pee, Toilet Paper, Butter, Vegetable Oil, Bacon Fat, Salad Dressing, Gravy, Dairy Products: Milk, Ice Cream
- Laminated photos of clogged pipes
- Green organics bin

Set Up: Lay out 2 cornhole boards, 2 bins with bean bags and organics bin.

Take Down: At the end of the day please make sure all material listed above are placed into the storage totes.

Vocabulary:

FOG – Fats Oil and Grease

Sewer Backup – When sewer pipe is clogged the sewage will backup into your home

Clogged Pipe – Pipe is blocked and will prevent any sewer water from draining

What will I be doing? (Procedure)

*Remember that **doing** an experiment and **discovering** the answer is more powerful than watching and listening to someone, so try to involve as many children as possible.*

Introduction

Say: “Hi and welcome to Toilet Toss! My name is _____ and through this activity, we are going to learn the importance of what should and should not go down our toilets and drains.”

Say: “For this activity we will first be showing you some images of pipes that can be found in our homes or underground. After that, we will be playing a game called Toilet Toss, where you will learn that only a small number of items should go down your toilets or sinks.”

Part 1: Pipe Blockage Photos

Say: “Before we play our game, we’re going to show you why some items shouldn’t be thrown away in a sink or toilet. This is pretty important for the second part of our activity so I suggest paying extra attention!”

Red Colour Group

Say: “Before I show you the photos, I want to share that it’s fairly common for people to throw away things in their toilets and sinks that don’t belong there. Can you name some?” *Take a few of their guesses and explain if they’re correct or not, then prompt further if the answers aren’t food-related: “A lot of unwanted foods, drinks or food items get dumped into toilets and sinks too – but they actually don’t belong there. What kinds of items do you think I’m talking about?” *Take a couple of guesses

Say: “Great, those were some pretty good guesses. To make it easier for you to remember what should and shouldn’t go down drains and toilets, I have a couple of helpful phrases. The first has to do with what SHOULD go down the toilet. To remember that, we use the 3 P’s.”

Say: “The 3P’s are Pee, Poop, and toilet Paper. These are the only things that should be flushed down your toilet. Anything else might damage your pipes. It may clog them and prevent other things from going down too.”

*Show the images of the blocked pipes

Say: “The second phrase reminds us of things that SHOULD NOT go down the drains or toilets, and that word is FOG, but it stands for Fats, Oils and Grease. FOGs play a large role in blocking drainage and can accumulate in something called a fatburg, which is like an iceberg but made up primarily of fats and can contain items like wipes that shouldn’t go down the toilets. All the salad dressings, creams, cooking oils and butter that goes down the drain hardens and forms a clump in pipes that look like this. If fatbergs get large enough, it can cause sewage to back up into your homes.”

*Show image of fatburg

Say: “Pretty gross, right? That’s why it’s important to pay close attention to what you put down the pipes at home – either in the toilet or in the sink. Any food or FOG items must go into the organics bin (if you don’t have one, it should go in the garbage). Let’s move on to our game!”

Part 2: Toilet Toss

*Split the students into 2 even teams

Say: “This game is a competition. You want to be the team who sorts the most number of objects correctly. Though you do have to pay attention to how much time it takes, the important thing is that the waste items are correctly sorted, not if they make it into the hole or bin.”

*Walk over to the cornhole game and have one instructor demonstrate the activity while the other stands close to the students and explains it so that everyone can hear

Say: “I’m going to explain how the game works while my friend _____ demonstrates what to do”

Say: “When it’s your turn, you’re going to run up to this bucket and grab a bean bag. Look at your bean bag and see what item is on it. For example, _____’s item is cooking oil. From the pictures do you remember where cooking oil should go? That’s right, cooking oil is a food item, so it belongs in the organics bin! So _____’s going to throw their beanbag into the organics bin.

Red Colour Group

If you miss on your first try, that's okay, you can bring it back and try one more time to get it in! If it still doesn't go in, leave it where it falls and head to the back of the line. When you do get it in, leave your beanbag where it is and run as fast as you can back to your line and high-five the next person so they can go. The game ends when both teams have thrown all their bean bags."

Say: "Okay, on your mark, get set, go!"

*let the students play the game, then quickly review if there were any incorrectly sorted items. The team that has the most correctly sorted items wins.

Say: "Congratulations to the winning team! Remember, only the 3 P's should go down your toilet, and please remind your family when they cook or prepare food at home that FOGs cannot go down the drain!"