

Unit 8: Physical Science

Lesson 20A: Using Ecology Words

Introduction

All students need to be aware of what they can do to protect the environment. Through the use of writing, the activities in Lesson 20 will help students develop a better understanding of environmental issues and the vocabulary words often used when we talk about “saving the earth.”

Materials Needed

- Markers
- Large index cards or construction paper
- A plastic grocery bag for each student
- Four recycling boxes (plastic containers or cardboard boxes)
- Plastic gloves for each student

Preparation

Unless your recycling boxes are already labeled, make the following four labels: *trash*, *paper*, *plastic*, *cans*. Place the labels on the four boxes.

Search out a heavily-littered place where your students will each be able to gather debris.

Procedure

1. Read and discuss a book about recycling.
2. Discuss these ecology terms:
 - Ecology
 - Reduce
 - Reuse
 - Recycle
 - Natural resources
 - Pollution
 - Conservation
 - Preservation
 - Earth
 - Trash
 - Paper
 - Plastic
 - Cans
3. Have students put on plastic gloves. Give each student an empty grocery bag. Take an *Ecology Walk*. Collect all debris that you find.
4. Sort the grocery bags of debris into the four containers (trash, paper, plastic, and cans).

Follow-Up

After learning about the importance of protecting the environment, have students make “SAVE THE EARTH” posters and place them around the school or community.

Unit 8: Physical Science
Lesson 20B: Using Ecology Words (part 1 of 3)

Teacher Directions: There are many terms that people use to talk about saving our earth. Students will learn these terms if they see them frequently. Make the terms visible in the classroom by placing the following words on flash cards, game cards, and signs. Also, give students copies of the words to use when completing Lesson 20B (parts 2 and 3).

reduce

reuse

recycle

pollution

conserve

preserve

natural

resources

ecology

trash

paper

plastic

cans

Earth

Unit 8: Physical Science
Lesson 20B: Using Ecology Words (part 2 of 3)

Directions: Cut out the words from Lesson 20B (part 1). Using glue, match some of the words to the meanings below. Match the rest of the words to the meanings in Lesson 20B (part 3).

1. The study of how to save our Earth	
2. To use something over again	
3. To save what we have	
4. To use only what we need	
5. To not use as much	
6. To make something new from something old	
7. The planet on which we live	