

- understand that the application of the first 2R's (Reduce and Reuse) can have benefits beyond waste reduction
- understand the phrase "someone else's trash is another's treasure"

Toys & Clothes for Sharing (K-5)

IRP outcomes

It is expected that students will:

[SS] Describe ways individuals contribute to a community (2)

[SS] Compare ways needs and wants are met in communities (3)

[SS] Explain why sustainability is important (5)

[PP] Relate the support services available in the school and community to personal needs (4)

[PP] Identify people and organizations that support children (K-1)

[PP] Identify thoughtful, caring behaviours (2-3)

[PP] Describe empathetic responses in a variety of situations (5)

[SC] Describe ways to rethink, refuse, reduce, reuse and recycle (K)

Intro: Many of us seem to wear 20 per cent of our clothes, 80 per cent of the time. The question arises, what do we really need? By taking a look around our house and in our closets, we may see that there are some things we could pass along to those who are less fortunate.

Materials:

- box for each participating classroom (reuse paper, computer or other boxes)
- a list of local charity facilities from www.myrecyclopedia.ca or the yellow pages phone book. Call first to see if they need the items you're considering collecting.
- primary level book: *Franklin's Christmas Gift* by Paulette Bourgeois (Canadian author, ISBN 1-55074-4666-6)

Activity: Have a class or school-wide event to collect donated toys or clothes for a local or overseas group or organization in need. Have a box in each class to encourage students to bring used or not needed toys or clothes for others. Toys will need to be clean and in working condition. There are a variety of local community charities in need of toys and clothes. Refer to CRD myrecyclopedia.ca or phone book for list of local charities. Call first to see if they need the items you're considering dropping off.

During the holiday season, primary students can discuss the spirit of giving to others after reading, *Franklin's Christmas Gift* by Paulette Bourgeois. In this story, Franklin has a hard time finding something at home that he can donate to the toy donation box at school.

Conclusion/Discussion: Discuss other options for dealing with items at home that you no longer need. What can you do? Brainstorm. For example: selling/buying at second hand/consignment stores or using free online services, asking friends if they need the item that you no longer need, trading your item for something you need that someone else has, or having a garage/yard sale. Debate the pros and cons of each option.

Extension Activities: ■ Have a school-wide yard sale or swap meet (possible spring or fall). Donate leftover items to charity, calling ahead to ensure that your items are needed.