Recycle Activity

- review what can and cannot be recycled in the CRD Blue Box program

Survive-R Game Show (K-4):

**Recycling Relay**

**Intro:** This fun, fast-paced game encourages students to put the 3R hierarchy into action by determining what can be reduced, reused and recycled. The teacher is encouraged to imitate the style of the television show Survivor, if s/he feels comfortable. The Recycling Relay is more appropriate for primary students, but it can be made more difficult for older students. Please check out The Mighty Matching Game. It is for intermediate classes, though it can be adapted for younger students. (see Reuse Section).

**Materials:**

- significant room for running a relay
- 3 markers, such as traffic cones

**3 each of:**

- blue box (or cardboard box labelled “blue box”)
- blue box (or cardboard box) labelled “glass”
- blue recycling bag (or bag labelled “blue bag”)
- box labelled “Depot” (for non blue box or blue bag recyclables)
- 3 garbage bags, each with the following materials (list indicates into which containers the students during the relay should sort the materials):
  - Into Blue Box:
    - milk or milk substitute container (plastic and/or carton)
    - plastic shampoo bottle
    - soup can or carton
    - rigid plastic packaging
    - foil plates
    - flat aluminum foil
    - lids
  - Into Blue Box labelled glass:
    - glass bottles and jars
  - Into Blue Bag:
    - paper bag (lunch bag)
    - newspaper
    - magazine
    - white paper
    - envelope (windows are ok)
    - empty toilet roll
    - empty tissue box (no plastic)
    - boxboard (like cereal or shoe box)
  - Beside the Blue Box:
    - cardboard
    - pizza box

**IRP outcomes**

**It is expected that students will:**

- [SS] Describe and demonstrate responsible behaviour to local environments (K-3)
- [PP] Relate consequences to actions and decisions (K-1)
- [PP] Relate the support services available in the school and community to personal needs (2-3)
- [PP] Apply problem-solving models to a variety of situations (4)
- [PP] Identify and apply the steps in decision-making process (5)
- [PP] Predict possible problems associated with particular situations or courses of action (6)
- [PP] Practice responsible decision-making (7)
- [SC] Describe ways to rethink, refuse, reduce, reuse and recycle (K)
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Into box labelled “Depot”:
- juice box and/or can
- large plastic juice bottle (e.g. cranberry juice, V8)
- plastic bags and overwrap
- plastic foam packaging (e.g. meat tray, egg carton)

Tips: You may want to ask a parent or class coordinator to collect all items and confirm current recycling options:
- www.recyclinginbc.ca BC residential recycling program
- www.rcbc.ca Other EPR programs in BC
- www.myrecyclopedia.ca Recycling directory (capital region)

Not Required, But Fun:
- safari style hat
- tiki torches (might fashion out of bamboo poles and bike flashers)
- Survivor poster
- sheets of coloured paper for team flags

Activity: Set up all activity groups and (if keen) tiki torches and Survivor sign. Announce that the class will be involved in a game of wit, wisdom and agility that tests their ability to survive in the land of the 3R’s. Have class sit down as if in audience. Pull on safari hat (if keen) and announce:

"Greetings to you all, and welcome to this week’s edition of the Survive “R” Game Show. Before me are the 30 lucky contestants who have been chosen from the thousands and thousands of eager applicants to join me on this beautiful island to outlast and outwit one another!

Now many of you may be familiar with this show, but for those who are not, it works like this: Our contestants will be divided into three teams, or tribes, which will compete against one another in a challenge.”

Divide class. (If desired, ask groups to name their tribe and write this on a team “flag” -- a coloured piece of paper).

Recycling Relay (K-4)

Set up three markers on floor and direct the three teams to sit on the floor behind their designated markers. At the far end of room, set up three sets of the following containers: a box labelled “blue box”, a box labelled “glass”, a blue bag, a box labelled “depot”. Mid-way between the teams and containers, place a green garbage bag full of the required materials.

“This challenge is all about recycling. Each team has a bag filled with all sorts of objects, most of which can be recycled. The goal is for your team to correctly sort as much recyclable material from the garbage into the containers at the far end of the classroom in a four-minute time period.” Review the containers and what goes into them (see Recycling Schedule included in manual if there is any confusion) Teams receive one Eco-point for every item correctly sorted.
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Call on one student to show how the relay works. The first person in the line runs to the garbage, picks out one object, runs to the recycling containers at the far end of the class and decides where to place it. That person then runs to the back of the line, and the next person goes. Run relay, review results and award points.

**Conclusion/Discussion:** Discuss what can be recycled in the CRD blue box program.

**Extension Activities:** Repeat the activity and introduce new items and discuss the 3R options for these items in your community. For recycling information, visit [www.myrecyclopedia.ca](http://www.myrecyclopedia.ca)

e.g. Into box labelled “Not Recyclable”:
   - foil wrapping paper
   - plastic foil wrappers (some granola bars and chip bags)

■ Book a 3R field trip or school program. Build on students’ learning and inspire their environmental inquiries and motivation to take action to reduce waste by discovering what is in our garbage and how it is managed at Hartland landfill and recycling facility. Register online [www.crd.bc.ca/teacher](http://www.crd.bc.ca/teacher) or by calling the CRD Hotline at 250.360.3030