

Chapter One, Lesson One:

How Much Do You Know About Solid Waste Recycling?

Concepts and Skills Addressed:

Vocabulary
Interpersonal Communication
Class Discussion

Materials Needed:

Pen or Pencil

Materials Supplied:

Pre-Quiz questions
Teacher answer sheet

Students will show their knowledge of the waste system and recycling by taking a pre-quiz and discussing the results in class.

A. Procedure:

Administer the quiz to students individually or in groups. The quiz can be set up in two ways:

1. If given to students individually, you may elect to give them a block of time to answer all 20 questions and then discuss each answer.
2. If working in groups, you may allow one to two minutes for students to discuss and complete each answer and then discuss the correct answer as a class.

(Note: This quiz can also be given at the end of your recycling unit. See Post-Quiz section.)



Can you answer these questions?
You may know more than you think!

1. How much **trash** does each person in the United States throw away daily?

- ___ 1 pound (.45 kilograms)
- ___ 1.5 pounds (.68 kilograms)
- ___ 3.5 pounds (1.6 kilograms)
- ___ 8 pounds (4.5 kilograms)

2. What material is thrown out more often than any other?

- ___ paper
- ___ glass
- ___ plastic
- ___ aluminum cans

3. If I could change something about the way I recycle, I would

4. Many communities have passed or are trying to pass laws to encourage recycling.

- ___ True
- ___ False



5. When I recycle at home, I hope to do a better job at

6. How many **aluminum** cans are thrown away each year rather than recycled?

_____100,000

_____34 million

_____1 billion

_____34.8 billion

7. When I think of all the things that can be recycled and are not, I

8. If I see someone throw a recyclable item away, I

9. How much of our trash is packaging (boxes, bags, wrappers)?

_____to little to measure

_____10% of our trash by weight

_____32% of our trash by weight

_____almost all of our trash

10. To recycle means to process waste materials into new products.

____ True

____ False

11. To **reuse** means to use something again for the same purpose or to find new uses for it in its original form.

____ True

____ False

12. I like recycling because

13. Most of our **garbage** is

____ Buried (in landfills)

____ Burned (incinerated)

____ Reused

____ Recycled

14. **Open dumps** are the same as **sanitary landfills**.

____ True

____ False

15. Sanitary landfills protect **groundwater** by using liners to contain garbage deposited.

____ True

____ False

16. **Resource recovery** means trash is burned to create energy.

____ True

____ False

17. The best thing about recycling is

18. Sometimes recycling is hard because

19. As I grow older, I hope recycling

20. To me, recycling means
