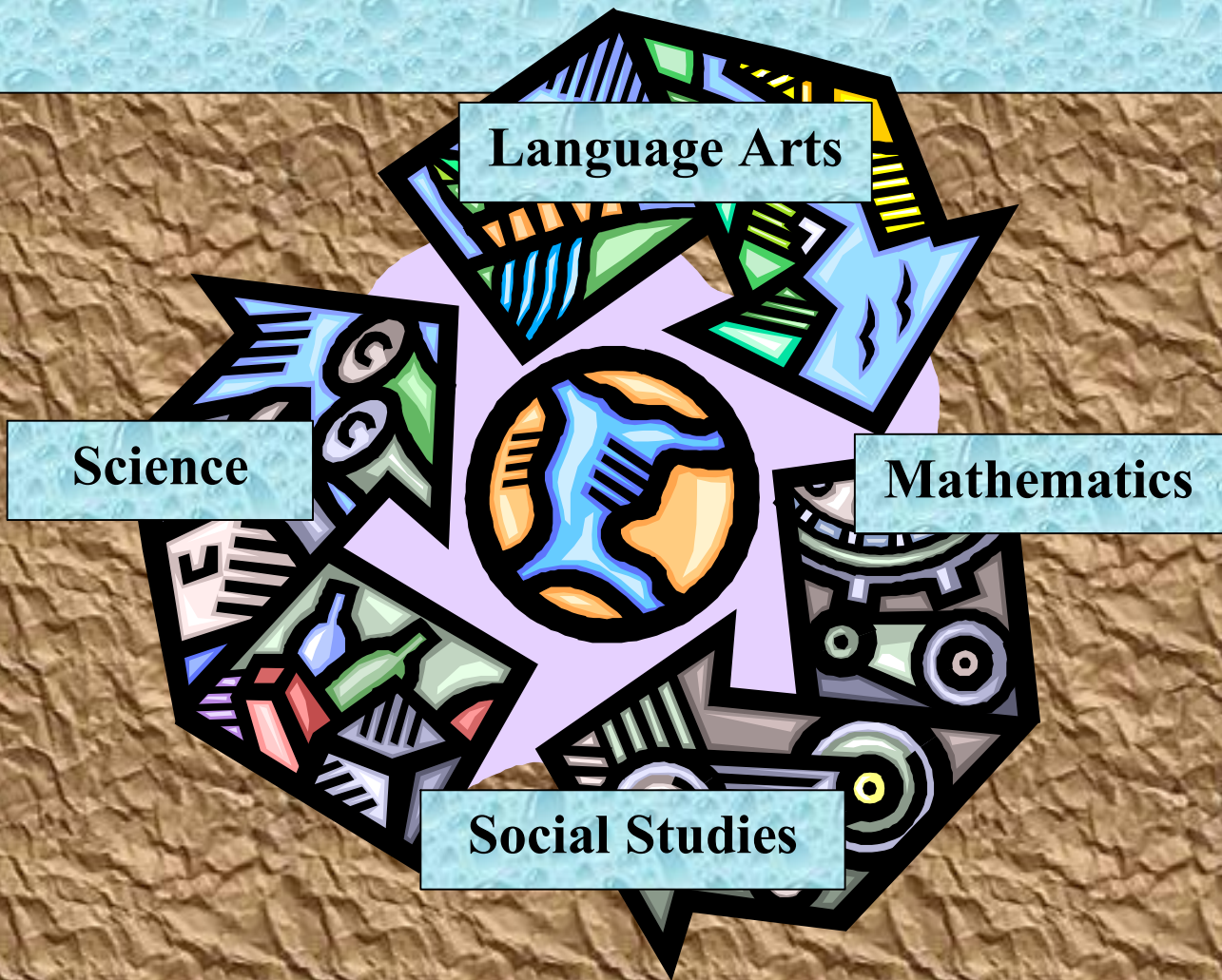


Garbology

A Thematic Unit about Trash

By Nancy L. Wilkinson



Fascinating Facts

- One in every 6 trucks in the United States is a garbage truck.
- The average American tosses 1,200 pounds of trash each year.
- An EPA study showed it takes householders a little more than 2 minutes a day to recycle.
- Americans throw away enough aluminum every 3 months to rebuild our entire commercial air fleet.
- If the pilgrims had 6 packs, those plastic rings would still be intact today.
- One day's U.S. junk mail could produce enough energy to heat a quarter of a million homes
- Six billion pens are thrown away annually in this country.
- Recycling a single aluminum can will save enough energy to run a TV set for 3 hours.
- One dollar out of every 11 that Americans spend for food goes for packaging.
- States with bottle-deposit laws have 35% to 40% less litter by volume.
- Virtually 100% of car batteries returned to stations and dealers get recycled.
- There are 14 million copies of the Japanese newspaper, Asahi Shimbun, sold every day. The paper used accounts for about 34,000 trees.
- Americans use 2.5 million bottles every hour.
- Americans use 35 million paper clips each year.









More Fascinating Facts!

- Plastic waste in the oceans kills 30,000 seals each year.
- Australians toss an estimated 8 million dollars worth of reusable aluminum and glass each year.
- Battery manufacturing uses 50% more energy than the batteries store.
- All of the garbage collected in the United States in one year could form a block weighing 196 million tons. The block would be as tall as a 246-story building.


Ways to Recycle

- 🌍 Reuse foam packing “peanuts” and bubble wrap or take them to a store that can use them.
- 🌍 Cut un-wearable clothing into cleaning rags and use instead of paper towels.
- 🌍 Use scrap paper for notes and memos. Reuse gift boxes wraps and ribbons too.
- 🌍 Keep a magnet handy tour recycling area to test “mystery” cans. Magnets won’t stick to aluminum.
- 🌍 Return extra dry-cleaning hangers to the store.
- 🌍 Use used fabric softener sheets to polish faucets and mirrors.
- 🌍 Place used fabric softener sheets in the bottom of garbage pails to freshen them up.
- 🌍 Slip cardboard rolls over a hanger to hang linens or other easily creased items.
- 🌍 Use cardboard rolls to store a long fluorescent bulb.
- 🌍 Turn a plastic soda bottle on its side and make a giant piggy bank. Just cut a slit in the side and use the cap as the snout.
- 🌍 Use a plastic soda bottle as yarn holders. Just pull off the outside plastic bottom and cut a hole in the bottom of the bottle. Put the yarn inside, fee one end through the spout and replace the outer bottom.

Some Websites on Garbage

-  <http://bara.arizona.edu/gs.htm> - The Garbage Project
-  <http://plasticsrecycling.org> - Association of Post Consumers Plastic Recycling
-  <http://prelectur.stanford.edu/lecturers/christo/index.html> - Website about Christo Javacheff
-  <http://w3.access.gpo.gov/usbudget> - Federal government budget
-  http://www.access.gpo.gov/nara/cfr/cfrhtml_00/Title_40/40cfr258_00.html - All the federal laws regulating landfills
-  <http://www.captivated.com/nadelman/main.html> - Features photos of a garbage can throughout a 10-year history.
-  <http://www.ccc.govt.nz/Publications/EffectiveWasteManagement/Unit4.pdf> - a pdf file with information on landfill gasses
-  <http://www.chej.org/SF/landfillgasses.html> - A study of a school, which tried to power their school using landfill gasses.
-  <http://www.ci.swt.edu/Faculty/Peterson/Ecotrash/ecotrash.htm> - An excellent site on landfill gasses with links.
-  <http://www.epa.gov> - The EPA's official site
-  <http://www.epa.gov/epaoswer/non-hw/muncpl/factbook/internet> - EPA's solid waste fact book
-  <http://www.epa.gov/epaoswer/non-hw/muncpl/factbook/internet/mswf/states.htm#top> - Map of different landfills
-  <http://www.epa.gov/epaoswer/non-hw/muncpl/index.htm> - Basic facts on Municipal Solid Waste
-  <http://www.epa.gov/epaoswer/osw/kids/index.htm> - The EPA's kid's page
-  <http://www.epa.gov/osw/> - Budget for solid wastes
-  <http://www.goddessofgarbage.com/> - Features Interior design using garbage
-  <http://www.kowaldesign.com/budget/> - Create your own federal budget
-  <http://www.lifewater.org/wfw/san3/san3d1.pdf> - A great activity on designing your own landfill
-  <http://www.mcswmd.org/kids/1f2010.html> - Information on decomposing of garbage for kids
-  <http://www.naturalcollection.com/dotguides/recyclingguide.asp> - Gives definitions of plastic recycling codes
-  http://www.npri.org/issues/issues97/enviro_myths.htm - Some myths to investigate

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 http://www.plasticsresource.com/resource_conservation/5_major_myths/garbage/intro.html - More information on Myths

 <http://www.rhrwildlife.com/kidsonly/rhrgames/Mini%20landfill%20experiment.doc> -A landfill experiment

 <http://www.stevetrash.com/lesson6.htm> - Create your own landfill model

