

**Title:** RECYCLING

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**Grade Level:** K-6

**Concepts:**  
6. Resources  
9. Change  
11. Individual Acts

**Disciplines:**  
1. Social Studies  
2. Mathematics

**Objective:**  
Students will set up and use a classroom recycling center.

**Rationale:**  
With our ever diminishing resource supply, it is most important to recycle and reuse materials. Also, disposal of solid waste is rapidly becoming a problem in the Virgin Islands. We have limited space and by recycling we are helping to reduce our solid waste. Most of the collected materials will have a future use in the classroom.

**Materials Needed:**

Five or six medium size pasteboard boxes or other containers.

**Directions/Activity:**

A. At primary level, decide with students beforehand what they can recycle, i.e., should it be restricted to things in the classroom? Or should a few things useful for school activities be identified that could be brought from home, such as foil, aluminum pans, plastic egg cartons, etc., which could be used as art projects.

B. At intermediate level, the recycling could be expanded to include a crafts element—that is crafting some useful or interesting objects from the recycled materials. A periodic craft sale held at school could raise needed funds for special equipment or other classroom needs.

Students label each box, one for newspaper, one for clean rags, one for foil, jars, magazines, egg cartons, etc. Have a group be in charge of one container to imaginatively decorate the box. Then, instead of discarding these items students place them in the recycling bins. A math activity is suggested to tally, weigh and record recycling effort.

