

Waste and Law



INTRODUCTION

Being aware of the laws is an important component of “Citizenship Education”. With our “Rights” we have our “Responsibilities”. With the waste becoming a global problem that is effecting our oceans at a scale that can threaten wild life and the larges source of food supply, it is important to be aware of the laws at various levels - local to global for better compliance.

The lesson plan encourages research of laws related to waste that can encourage better compliance and responsible global citizenship.

Objectives:

Students will be able to

- record an inventory of laws related to waste.
- create a display of the different types of laws related to waste.

Eco-Schools Steps: Environmental review, Curriculum linkages, Inform and Involve

Curriculum Linkage: Science/ Environmental Studies/Social Science

Time required/ Duration:

- **Classroom Session 1:** 45 minutes to do a background introduction on waste and law.
- **Group Assignment:** Five hours over a week for students to undertake internet based research and identify different laws pertaining to waste.
- **Classroom Session 2:** 90 minutes to summarise and students to prepare the Eco-Schools display board along with one month display time.

Resources Required:

- Resource 1 (Resource Conservation and Recovery Act)
- Internet
- Writing Materials



Activity

Classroom session 1

- Start with a discussion introducing students to waste and law.
- Divide the class into groups of 3-4 students.
- Guide students to undertake internet based search on the different types of laws and legislations pertaining to waste. Different groups can be assigned different aspects so as to avoid overlaps
 - Laws could be pertaining to category of waste.
 - Laws could be pertaining to collection of waste.
 - Laws could be pertaining to disposal of waste - how and where?
 - Laws could be related to littering and such behaviours.

Teachers should provide one week for each group to further research and collate information about laws relevant to waste.

Classroom session 2

- Ask students to summarise and share their research work.
- Discuss what is the responsibility of a common citizen in enforcement of laws.
- Brainstorm on why some of the laws do not work and what can be done to create more compliance.
- Guide the groups to organise the information collected to inform the students of the schools.
- Ask the students to create a display with information pertaining to waste and law on the Eco-Schools bulletin board.

Evaluation:

Teachers could evaluate the lesson plan based on the content of the display board.