

## Lesson Plan

### *Lesson 3: What happens to plastic after we throw it away?*

Year Group: 3-6

#### **National Curriculum links:**

**Science** – Properties and Changes of Materials

Understand reversible changes including recycling.

**Design Technology**- Materials

Select and use materials based on their properties and sustainability.

**Summary:** In this lesson, children learn how plastic is recycled by following simple steps like collecting, cleaning, melting, and remoulding. They also explore the good and bad sides of recycling—how it helps reduce waste but also uses a lot of water and energy. By the end, children understand how recycling works and why it's important to think about how it affects the environment.

#### **Prior knowledge required:**

- What plastic is and where it comes from
- Why plastic waste can be harmful to the environment
- What recycling means in general
- Basic understanding of how materials can be reused
- Awareness that some items go in the recycling bin and others don't

**Learning objective:** To understand the steps involved in recycling plastic and evaluate the environmental benefits and drawbacks of the recycling process.

#### **Success criteria:**

- I can describe the key steps in recycling plastic, including collecting, cleaning, melting, and remoulding.
- I can explain the positive and negative impacts of recycling.
- I can discuss how recycling fits into wider efforts to protect the environment.

**Prepare before the lesson:**

Mini whiteboards and whiteboard pens.

Resources for optional extension activities (see PPT).

**Lesson outline****Slide 4: Vocabulary**

Explicitly teach children the vocabulary words using the definitions provided in the PPT notes.

**Slides 5–6: Vocabulary Task**

Give children 1 minute per slide to write the missing vocabulary words. This will test their understanding of the new terms.

**Slides 8–17: Steps to Recycling Plastic**

Use the slides to teach children the five steps of recycling plastic. After each step, children recap with a partner to practise their understanding and oracy skills.

**Slide 18: Oracy Practice**

Children practise saying the five steps of recycling aloud, either in pairs or as a class.

**Slide 19: Assessment for Learning**

Children order the steps of the recycling process in their books or on whiteboards to check understanding.

**Slide 22: Discussion Points**

Use the notes in the PPT to guide a class discussion.

**Slides 23–25: Optional Extension Activities**

These slides offer extra activities to deepen learning—check the notes for instructions and adapt as needed.