

Lesson Plan

Lesson 4: How can I reuse the plastic I buy?

Year Group: 1- 2

National Curriculum links:

Science (Non-statutory Unit) Climate Change & Sustainability

- 1) Describe materials and objects that can be reduced, reused and recycled.
- 2) Understand the 3 Rs: Reduce, Reuse, Recycle.

Art and Design

- 1) Use a range of materials creatively to design and make products.

Summary:

In this lesson, children will learn about the waste hierarchy and why it's important for protecting the environment. They will explore each level—reduce, reuse, recycle, recover, and dispose—and understand which actions are best. The focus will then shift to the reuse step, where children will discover fun and practical ways to reuse plastic items they might normally throw away.

Prior knowledge required:

- Know what rubbish/waste is
- Understand that some things can be thrown away and some can be used again
- Have heard of recycling or seen recycling bins
- Know what plastic is and where they might find it (e.g. bottles, packaging)
- Be familiar with the idea of helping the environment

Learning objective: To know about the waste hierarchy and how to reuse plastic

Success criteria:

- I can define each level of the waste hierarchy
- I can put the stages of the waste hierarchy in the correct order.
- I can give examples of how to reuse plastic.

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 in the PPT notes.

Slide 5: Vocabulary task

Children to match the pictures to the numbers. See PPT notes for answers.

Slides 7–12: Stages of the waste hierarchy

Teach children the 5 levels of the waste hierarchy. Ensure they know that the higher up the hierarchy, the better it is for the environment.

Slide 13: Oracy Practice

In pairs, children use the sentence stems to recap what is the most and least preferable means of rubbish disposal.

Slides 14: Assessment for learning (AFL)

See if children can order the stages of the waste hierarchy to check understanding. Feedback.

Slide 15: Reuse plastic - Ideas

Model to children that there are many ways in which we can reuse plastic before we recycle it.

Slide 16: Oracy practice

Give children 2 minutes to discuss how they can reuse plastic. Share ideas.

Discussion points (see PPT notes)**Slide 15-17: Optional extension activities**