

REDUCE REUSE RECYCLE REBUY

TOMPKINS COUNTY LESSON PLANS FOR YOUTH



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PACKET PURPOSE

The Tompkins County Solid Waste Management Division (TCSWMD) and Cornell Cooperative Extension of Tompkins County (CCETC) are pleased to provide this packet of lesson plans for teaching youth the 3R's: reduce, reuse first, then recycle.

In this packet, you will find lesson plans for grades K- 6 designed to develop student understanding and decision-making skills to help make our "throw-away" society more environmentally sustainable. From understanding the life cycle of a product to learning how to reuse materials, recycle and compost, these lessons offer a variety of activities that educators can choose from to enhance student learning. The lessons have been selected from proven state and national environmental education curricula and cover topics including natural resource conservation, waste reduction, packaging, reuse, recycling, composting, landfills and litter. These lessons encourage student learning and development through participation in activities that enhance students' academic education while fostering civic and environmental responsibility.

In addition to learning in the classroom, TCSWMD and CCETC also encourage students, teachers, staff and administrators to develop active school programs to reduce, reuse, recycle and compost. TCSWMD and CCETC can provide assistance in doing so by offering technical assistance, tours, classroom presentations, literature and access to additional resources, as well as connecting you with educational opportunities and local celebrations occurring in conjunction with Earth Day (April 22) and America Recycles Day (Nov 15) each year.

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