

SAVE THE EARTH: IT'S EVERYONE'S HOME!

LESSON 5: Grades K-3

RECYCLE AND SAVE THE TREES!

Show Me Standards:

Academic Goals: 1.1, 1.3, 1.5, 1.6, 1.8, 1.10, 2.1, 2.2, 2.3, 3.1, 3.2, 3.4, 3.5, 3.7, 4.1, 4.2, 4.3, 4.4, 4.5, 4.6 & 4.7

Knowledge Goals: Comm. Arts: 1, 4, 5 & 6; Mathematics: 1, 3 & 6; Science: 3, 4 & 8; Social Studies: 4 & 7

Fine Arts: 4

Objectives:

1. Students will develop an understanding of the word **recycle**.
2. Students will demonstrate their understanding that recycling saves trees by reusing and recycling their paper.
3. Students will encourage other students in the school to join them in their efforts to save the trees!
4. Students will weigh, record and graph the number of pounds of paper collected for recycling each month.

Materials:

- Bulletin board, large poster board or butcher paper for display
- Crayons/ markers/ colored pencils
- Handout *Please Save the Trees*
- Enlarged pictures of the animals on the handout *Please Save the Trees*

Method:

1. Begin this lesson using guided imagery. Allow students to calm down and close their eyes. Sitting silently and still for a couple of minutes, ask them to imagine themselves riding their bikes on a beautiful spring day. Pay close attention to the wheels on your bike. What are they doing? They are going round and round in a circle. They are going around and around again and again. This is what it means to **recycle** (when one item can be made over and over again and reused). Draw the recycle symbol on the board and ask them to open their eyes (three arrows pointing in the same direction shaped like a rounded triangle).
2. Although many different types of materials can be recycled for use again (aluminum, glass, plastic, etc.) we are going to focus on paper today and you'll soon find out why! Ask them to get out a piece of paper and look at it closely. Ask if any one knows what paper is made of? It is made from the bark of trees! The bark is turned into paper for us to write on, color, type on, etc. Paper is a wonderful product for us BUT hundreds of thousands of trees are cut down each year to make paper items for us! What is wrong with this? Many animals live in and around the trees that re being cut down and trees keep our air clean and make the oxygen that we breathe! Yikes! What can you do so less trees are cut down? There are 2 things you can do:
 1. We can use both sides of our paper! Sometimes we throw paper out and start with a new piece when we make a mistake. We don't need to though, because that is what erasers and the back sides of paper are for!
 2. We can recycle paper! We can sort our paper into designated containers and take it to a recycling factory so that it can be made into new sheets of paper or into paper towels and toilet paper! Toilet paper is one type of paper we don't need to recycle but we can make a choice to use as little as possible! If we keep recycling what we already have, a lot less trees will be cut down and more animal homes will be saved!

Call to Action:

Handout an enlarged picture of one of the animal drawings from the handout titled *Please Save the Trees* to each child to color. Make two-three copies of each animal if needed or find clip art of additional animals that live in a forest (deciduous or rainforest).

Decorate your bulletin board or large poster with large trees and the colored animal drawings and have the students write the names of the animals beneath their drawings. Add the title: *We are Saving Trees and these Animals' Homes by RECYCLING and Using Both Sides of our Paper!*

Then have a sign up sheet and writing utensil attached to the bulletin board where each student will sign his/her name agreeing to reuse and recycle. Write above the sign-in sheet: "If you pledge to do the same, don't be shy and sign your name!" Explain what a commitment is. If you use a bulletin board in a high traffic area, others will be encouraged to join you and it will catch on!

Follow-Up with the handout titled *Please Save the Trees* to reinforce the lesson.

Provide a recycling box to each classroom that decides to "sign-on" with you! You can get these donated by grocery stores, the maintenance department, etc. Create a schedule for collecting and weighing the paper. Record data and graph the # of pounds collected each month. Report the results at an end of the year celebration! Pat yourselves on the back for saving trees and animals' homes!

Web sites: For recommended animal-related web sites visit www.apamo.org and choose "Animal Issues" from the left-side menu, then choose "Links" from the top of the page. Or [click here](#) to launch your browser and link directly to the list.

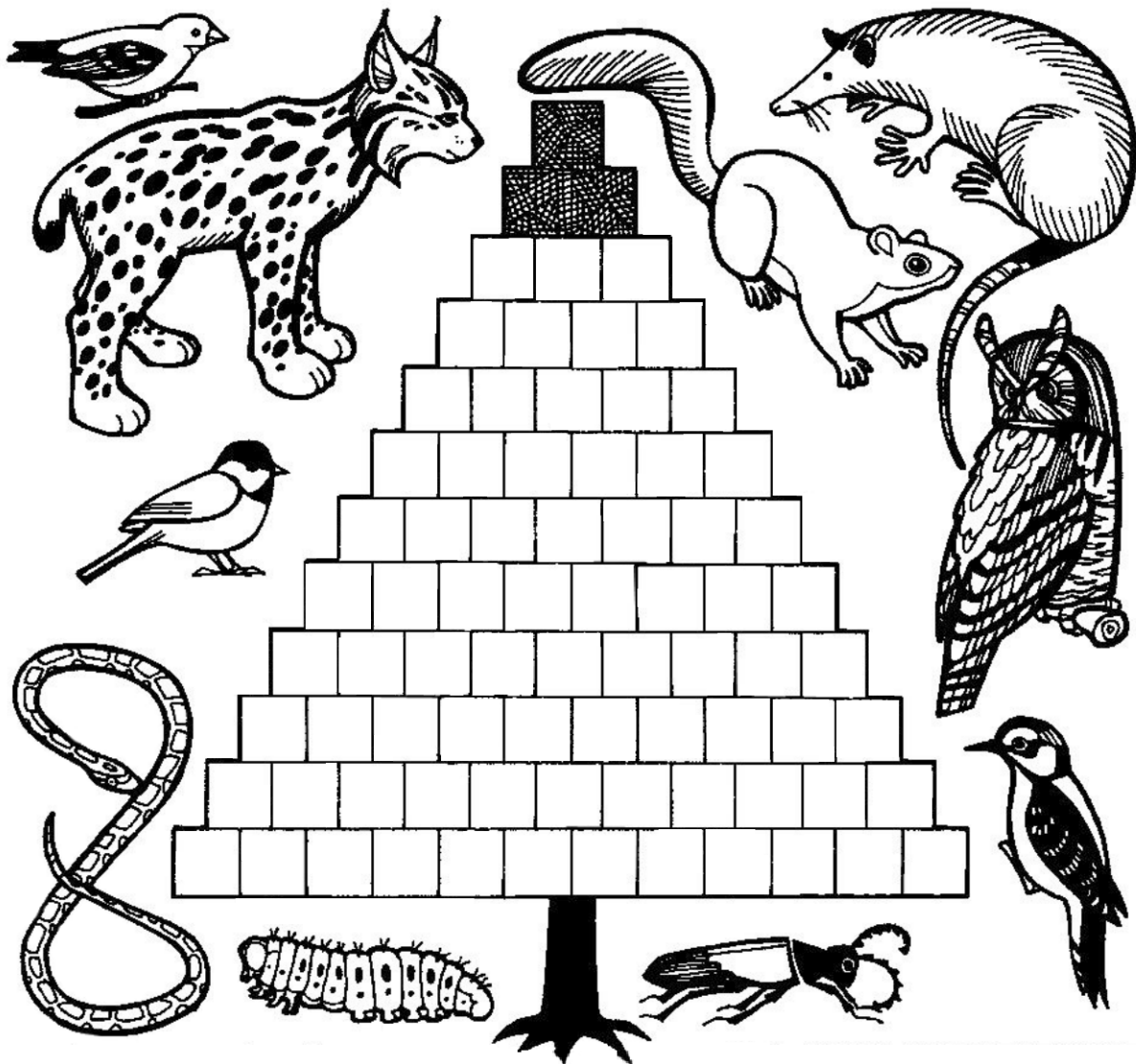
Teacher's box: Use this worksheet to remind students about using both sides of paper and recycling paper products.

Name _____

Please Save Trees

Many animals live in and around trees. The animals below can all be found in forests in North America. When we protect forests, we protect the places where animals live. Take a look at the Word Box. Write the name of each animal from the Word Box in the correct squares of the puzzle below.

Word Box				
opossum	snake	owl	pine grosbeak	woodpecker
caterpillar	lynx	beetle	squirrel	chickadee



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