



Yeading Junior School

Lesson 1

What's the similarity between a joke and a paper bag?
both can be recycled!



Keepers of the World

How can we support positive environmental change
through meaningful Social Action?

Social Action in context

Reducing, reusing and recycling paper



Civic Virtues

Responsible citizenship also includes
contributing to our environment

We have a duty and responsibility to care for our
environment for the common good



Civic Virtues

Reduce the amount of paper used in
school by:

1. Reusing paper
2. Recycling paper

Social Action Outcome

Action taken to ensure a sustainable
lifestyle by reducing the impact of
climate change



Prior knowledge

An understanding of how Social Action based on virtues results in a flourishing society (using The Building Blocks of Character model*).

We are part of a local and global community.

Have a basic understanding of the impact of climate change.

Teacher led activity

- Challenge the children to identify how many things in the class have derived from trees.
- Establish an understanding of how much we rely on furniture, paper and cardboard products.
- Show a picture of deforestation and the reason for it – for human activities as agricultural expansion, cattle breeding, timber extraction, mining, oil extraction, dam construction and infrastructure development. UN Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) estimate that 10 million hectares of forest are cut each year.**
- Develop their understanding of the need for trees. Without trees, we have no future – explain this statement discussing the 10 reasons why this is true from the resource sheet. Children can match the reasons to the explanations (**gratitude**).

Child led activity

- To understand the time and effort used in process of recycling paper, children will recycle paper themselves in small groups.
- They can watch a video of how to recycle paper at home and follow the technique in the class or you can use the resource sheet and follow the instructions.
- Once the paper is made, it can be re-used again for craft activities such as greeting cards (**resourcefulness**). The children can create a guide on how to how recycle paper at home and in school.

Plenary

- In groups children can explore the 3Rs (reduce, reuse, recycle) in relation to paper, at home, in school and the wider community (**critical thinking and resourcefulness**): What can we do to help reduce the use of paper? How can we reuse paper? What paper will we recycle? They can record their ideas on used paper or mini whiteboards.
- Record their suggestions and discuss which one(s) can be implemented and highlight the class paper waste scheme. For example, explain how the school is reducing, reusing and recycling paper as a Social Action (**citizenship**).



Building Blocks of Character to cultivate phronesis (practical wisdom): critical thinking and resourcefulness (intellectual virtues); gratitude and compassion (moral virtue); community awareness and volunteering (civic virtues) and perseverance and teamwork (performance virtues).*

Resources

Empty boxes with lids (can use the boxes that paper is delivered in).

National Curriculum

Citizenship: Preparing to play an active role as citizens - that resources can be allocated in different ways and that these economic choices affect individuals, communities and the sustainability of the environment.

Science: Living things and their habitats: recognise that environments can change and that this can sometimes pose dangers to living things.

Key Stage 2

Adjust the explanation of the need to reduce, reuse and recycle according to prior knowledge for upper and lower Key Stage 2.

Key virtues and vocabulary

Critical thinking, resourcefulness, gratitude, respect, citizenship, community awareness, determination, motivation and teamwork, reducing, reusing, recycling, sustainability, and climate change.

References:

* The building blocks of character **from A Framework for Character in Schools - The Jubilee Centre, University of Birmingham.**

** <https://ourworldindata.org/deforestation>



Yeading Junior School

Without trees, we have no future

Match the reason to the explanation

Trees provide food

Trees protect the land

Trees help us breathe

Trees provide shelter and shade

Trees are a natural playground

Trees encourage biodiversity

Trees provide sustainable wood

Trees conserve water

Trees help us to be mindful

Trees help humans

Trees protect the earth from soil erosion, flooding, fires and wind.

Spending time in the forest helps us to stay calm and positive.

Trees' expansive canopy reduces the temperature and cools the area for animals and people.

Trees provide medicine, food, furniture, paper and cardboard.

Various sources of food are grown on trees: cocoa, walnuts, mangoes, cinnamon and apples.

Trees help filter, retain water in the soil and prevent flooding.

Trees provide a great place to climb and explore building fitness and strength.

Trees remove excess carbon dioxide from our atmosphere and convert it into oxygen.

Faster growing trees provide wood as fuel for cooking and warmth.

Trees provide a habitat to diverse wildlife who live there.



Recycle paper in the classroom

A step by step guide

Things you need:

- Paper sheet you will recycle
- Scissors
- Bowl
- Water
- Framed wire mesh (for size of paper required) – picture frame, wire mesh and staple gun
- Towel
- Plastic bag
- Paper towel

Steps:

1. Make the paper frame mould: you can use an old picture frame of desired size, securely staple some wire mesh on the front (flat) side of the frame.
2. Cut lots of paper sheets in a bowl to resemble confetti. The smaller the pieces the better they will mould.
3. Add enough water to cover the bucket of cut paper, stir and leave overnight and let it sit. After one night, the paper starts to break down, to form a smooth pulp.
4. Mix the pulp to help it form quickly, you can use your hands and gloves to avoid any ink transferring on to your hands. The pulp should be thick and grey. Leave it to sit for longer if needed.
5. Reach into the bowl and place handfuls of the pulp on the back of the screen. Smooth it out with fingers and covering all the holes, leaving a thin layer of pulp on the screen.
6. On a towel, press out the water through the frame using a plastic bag to make the paper nice and smooth. Then, press some more with absorbent paper towels until most of the liquid is removed.
7. After pressing out the water, turn the frame over (back side up) and tap it on the table. The paper should fall right out. Let it sit there on the towel to dry overnight.
8. The recycled paper feels like grey cardboard egg cartons and is ready to be reused again!



Taking it into the community/home-school link

Communicate with parents about the school paper recycling scheme and encourage families to recycle in their own home. This continues the Social Action of a sustainable lifestyle into our wider community.

Social Action activity

Introduce a paper use scheme in school for children and staff. Contact local authority to check what their recycling programme is and get involved.

1. **Reduce** the amount of paper being used: avoid using worksheets and use the size reduction option when photocopying.
2. **Reuse** paper as well as the cardboard box and lid (reusing the box paper is delivered in) to store class paper which can be reused and recycled. Reuse the lid to neatly store paper which can be used to reprint on the plain back. You will never run out of paper again when photocopying!
3. **Recycle** which cannot be reused in the classroom by placing it in the box ready for collection.

Your child-led school committee/campaigners/group can lead and introduce the scheme through a school assembly, educating the children on the negative and positive impact of paper use and motivate them to be mindful whilst using paper.