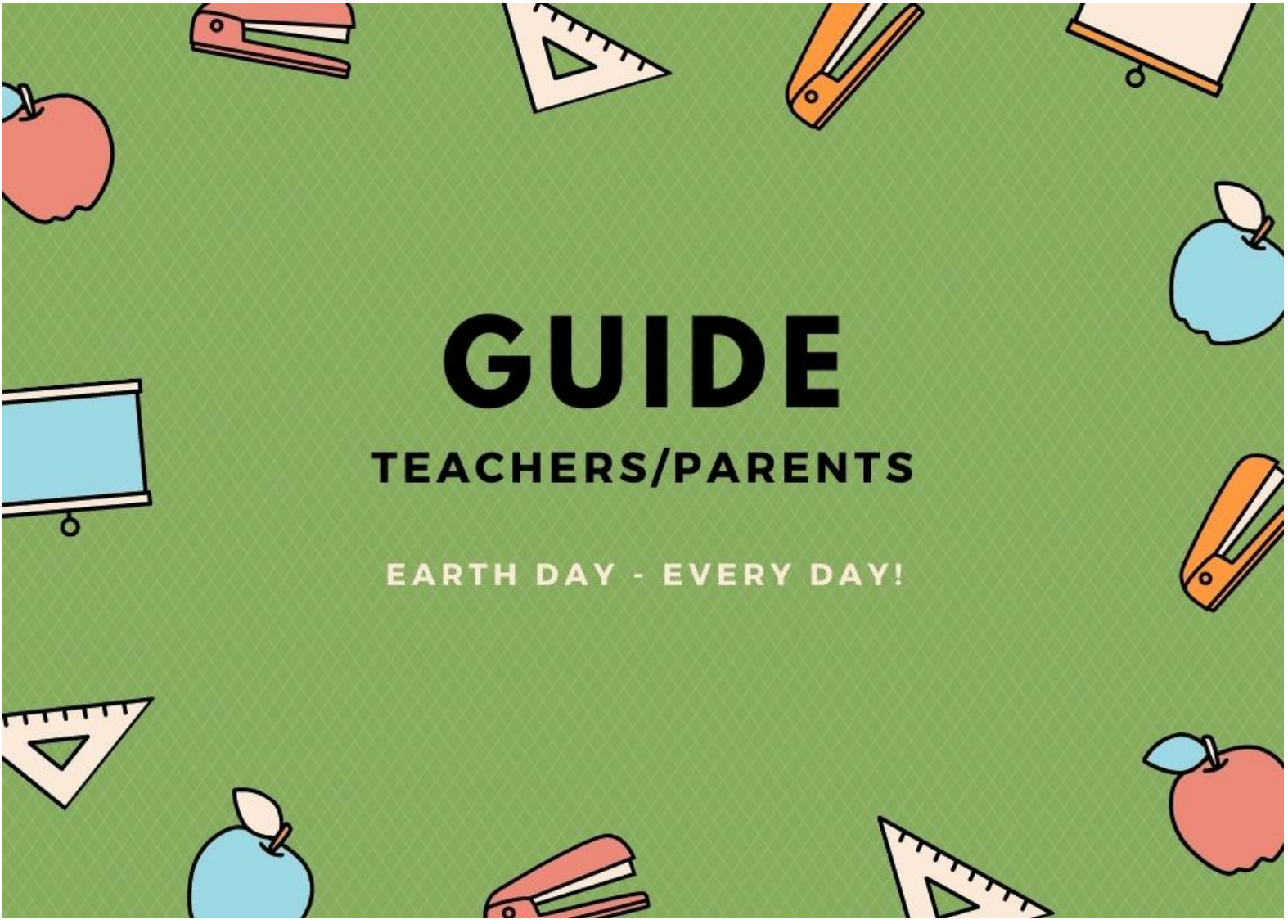
JOSEPH P CORY
FOUNDATION
Anchored in Love.



Earth Day Lesson Plan

This lesson plan was created using the EPA's "The Quest for Less: Activities and Resources for Teaching K-8".

Learning Objectives

This lesson will encourage students to celebrate planet Earth, and understand ways to manage waste. By the end of the lesson students will be able to:

1. Articulate why they are grateful for their Earth
2. Understand the best method for waste management
3. Suggest methods to reduce, reuse or recycle waste

Materials

- Activity Sheet
- Recycling Fact sheet
- Writing utensil
- Color pencils or crayons

Overview

Students will work individually or in groups to reflect on their relationship with the Earth and learn about waste management.

Steps

1. Distribute an activity packet and Recycling Fact Sheet to each participating student.
2. Have students work individually for the portion of the packet entitled: "Earth Day 2021", and "Appreciating Nature".
3. For the Reduce, Reuse and Recycle activity, students may work individually or in groups of 2-3 students to brainstorm with one another.
4. Have each student complete their packets and encourage them to share with the group, ways they plan to reduce waste at home.

Brainstorm - “Earth Day 2021”

Earth Day will take place on April 22nd, 2021 and is a day to celebrate our planet!

1. What are some things you like about our planet Earth?

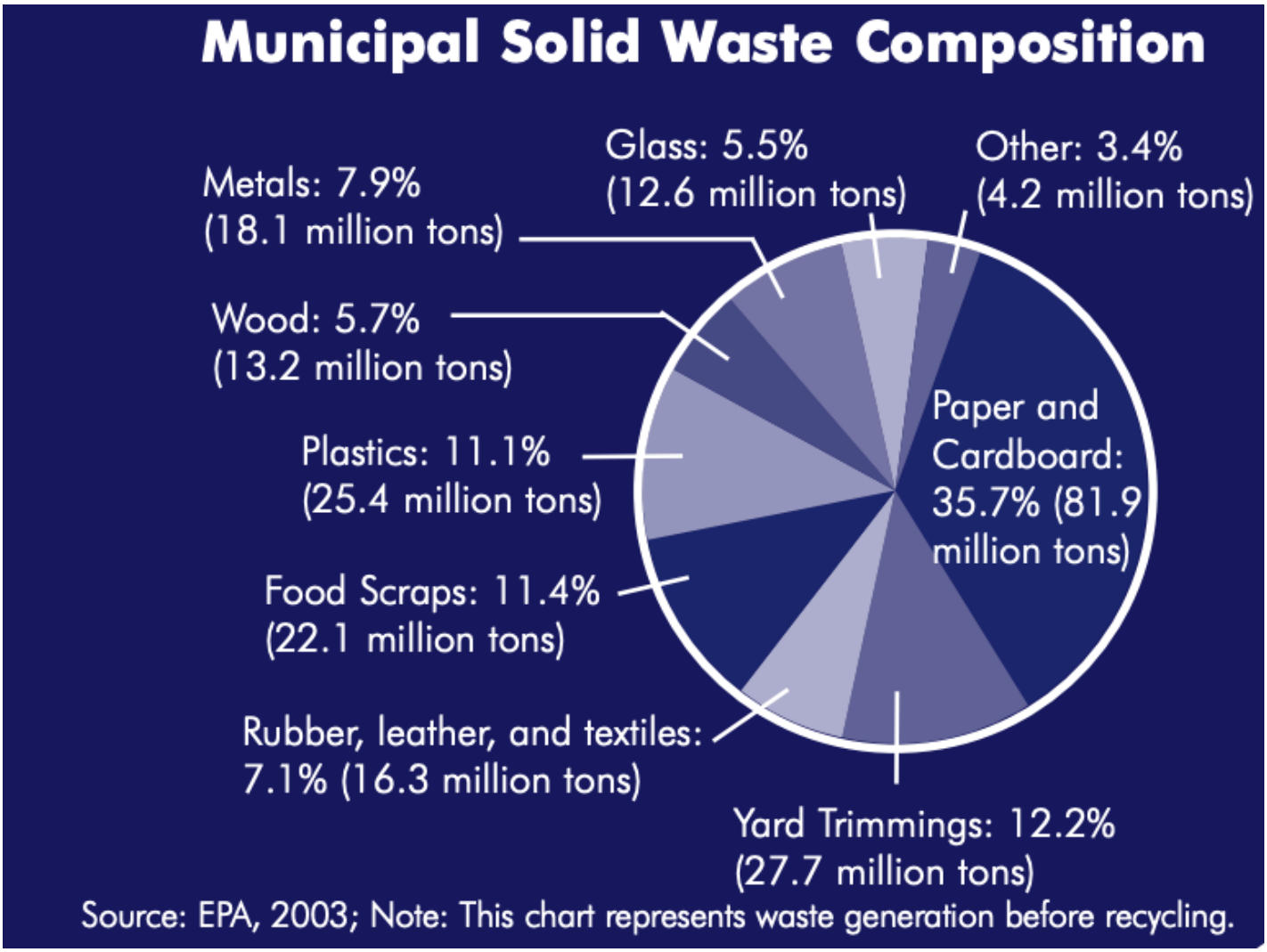
2. What are some ways you can show appreciation for our planet?

Activity Packet 1 - “Appreciating Nature”

Think about a time when you saw something beautiful in nature. Maybe it was something you saw on vacation, or maybe it was something in your own neighborhood! Draw a picture below that shows something beautiful in nature.

Activity Packet 2 - Ways to Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle

"Everyone produces solid waste (otherwise known as trash or garbage), whether it is old newspapers, potato chip bags, shampoo bottles, cut grass, food scraps from the dinner table, old appliances, or literally, even the kitchen sink! Each person in the United States generates 4.4 pounds (EPA, 2003) of solid waste each day, which is often collected by a municipality and is known as municipal solid waste. This kind of waste primarily comes from people's homes, but it also comes from some factories, businesses, and schools. As our population has grown, so has the number of products we use and the total amount of solid waste we generate."



1. Give some examples of the solid waste you generate:

“Source reduction, also known as waste prevention, is the preferred method of waste management because the best way to manage garbage is to prevent it in the first place. As the name implies, this method prevents waste at the source by decreasing consumption and reusing products. For example, using a durable cloth lunch bag or reusing the same brown paper bag instead of a new brown paper bag each day prevents waste.”

2. What are some ways you can re-use a glass jar?

3. What are some objects that can be re-used instead of thrown out?

4. Can you think of any ways to reduce your waste at home, or at school?

While source reduction is the best method for waste management, recycling is also a great option. See the attached Recycling Fact Sheet!

5. What is something you learned about recycling?

Student Handout

Recycling Facts

Paper

- The average amount of recycled fiber in newspapers increased from 10 percent in the late 1980s to more than 30 percent today.

- By recycling or reusing 1 ton of paper, we save 17 trees, 7,000 gallons of water, 463 gallons of oil, 3 cubic yards of landfill space, and enough energy to heat an average home for 6 months.
- Americans recycled 36.7 million tons of paper and paperboard in 2001.

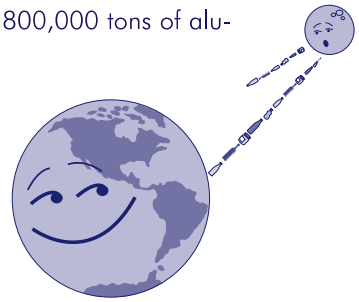
Plastic

- Using fewer than five recycled plastic soda bottles, manufacturers can make one extra-large T-shirt.
- Milk jugs can be made into all different types of plastic objects, from park benches to boardwalks.
- Recycled plastic soda bottles can be made into "fleece" sweaters, long underwear, stuffing for sleeping bags, and other items.

- Americans recycled 1.4 million tons of plastics in 2001.

Aluminum

- Recycling aluminum cans saves 95 percent of the energy required to make aluminum cans from scratch.
- Americans earn about $1 billion from recycling aluminum cans each year.
- Every minute, an average of 127,093 aluminum beverage cans are recycled in the United States.
- The amount of aluminum recycled in 2001 could have built 14 aircraft carriers.
- American's recycled 800,000 tons of aluminum in 2001.



Glass

- If all the glass bottles and jars recycled were laid end-to-end, they would reach the moon and make it more than halfway back to Earth.
- Most bottles and jars contain at least 25 percent recycled glass.
- Every ton of new glass produced results in 27.8 pounds of air pollution, but recycling glass reduces that pollution by 14 to 20 percent.
- American's recycled 2.4 million tons of glass in 2001.

Sources: EPA, 2003; American Forest and Paper Association; Can Manufacturers Institute; www.green-networld.com/tips/glass.htm.