

Practice care for the school environment

Subject(s): Health Education

Year(s): 3–4

Learning intention(s)

Students demonstrate respect and appreciation for their school environment.

Mapping to curriculum

Strands

- Healthy Communities and Environment
- Life and Living

Sub strands

- 3.5 Clean healthy communities and public places
- 4.1 Organisms in their environment

Learning outcome(s)

- 3.5.2 Understand that every individual must be responsible for the care of their school, village, and public places and for keeping them clean
- 3.5.4.2 Practice and demonstrate ways they can clean and tidy their school and home
- 4.1.5 Know that human impact causes negative changes to an environment

Lesson Instructions

Materials/resources

- ‘Paper bags or reusable containers’ – 1 per student
- ‘Large cardboard boxes or empty buckets’ – three boxes or buckets labelled ‘Garden-friendly’, ‘Non-garden friendly’ and ‘Recycle’.
- Hand gloves (if available) – 1 per student

Key Vocabulary

Reduce: To make goods or products smaller or fewer in number or size

Reuse: To use goods or products again or more than once.

Recycle: To convert goods and products that are seen as waste into reusable materials.

Dispose: To throw away and not use anymore.

Activity 1: Description

1. **Collect** objects that are lying around in the classroom or the schoolyard.
 - The teacher asks the students to walk around the classroom or the schoolyard and each pick up 2 objects they find lying on the ground (for example, pieces of paper, plastic bags, empty bottles, weeds, rocks/pebbles)
 - Before the students return to the classroom, the teacher gets the three large empty boxes/bags/buckets ready and places them on a table at the front of the class.
 - After 10 minutes, the teacher calls the students to return to the classroom with the objects they have collected.
 - Once the children are back seated in their chairs, the teacher explains to them the next steps of the activity.

- Firstly, the teacher explains the purpose of the three large boxes, pointing out the differences in terms of their labels ie 'Garden-friendly', 'Non-garden-friendly' and 'Recycle'.
- She/he then asks the students to think about their objects and identify the appropriate box in which their objects should be placed.
- The teacher outlines to the students the importance of the 3Rs (Reduce, Reuse and Recycle) and explains the importance of knowing this concept and its importance in keeping the school environment clean and safe.

Activity 2: Description

1. **Identify** appropriate objects to place in each box.
 - The teacher asks the learners to identify which of the labelled boxes correspond to the 3 Rs (Reduce, Reuse and Recycle) categories.
 - Ask each student to place their objects into the appropriate boxes.
 - The teacher checks each box to ensure the objects are in the correct boxes. If some objects are in the incorrect box, he/she asks a volunteer to identify the correct box to place the item.
 - Once all the items are placed in the labelled boxes/bags/buckets, the students then walk around the three boxes to observe the various objects placed in each category.
 - The teacher then asks for volunteers to dispose of the objects in the appropriate places ie, Garden-friendly objects to the school compost/ garden bed, non-garden-friendly objects in the general waste bin and the Recycle objects are kept in the classroom for students' future use.

Task(s)

Year 3 task

Ask students to draw a table in their exercise books with three columns. Label each column as -GOOD, BAD and RECYCLE. In the first column, list 4 objects that are good for composting, 4 objects that are good for recycling and 4 objects that cannot be reused and therefore need to be disposed of in the rubbish bins.

Year 4 task

In small groups, discuss how students can either harm or help the school environment through their behaviour or actions. After the discussion, the groups practice the 3 Rs through developing a role-play/scenario about different ways that students and teachers can keep their school surroundings tidy, clean and environmentally sustainable.

Teacher Supporting Resource

N/A