

Ball & Cup Game 3-5

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Lesson

Plastics are man-made which means they are not found in nature. Plastic is a kind of material that can be formed into almost any shape. Most plastics are strong, long-lasting, & lightweight. Plastic can be very useful, but it can also cause many problems for the environment. Items made out of plastic do not break down so they can last for hundreds of years. When they are thrown in the garbage, they take up room in landfills. A lot of plastic winds up in the oceans, where it can hurt animals. Since it does not break down, things like plastic bags, bottles, & fishing lines collect in large areas of the ocean.

Sea turtles & other animals might eat the plastic. The animals can also be hurt when plastic fishing lines get wrapped around their bodies. It is important to recycle plastics instead of throwing them away. Recycled plastic can be turned into many things including clothing, traffic cones, playground equipment, & more bottles.



Questions for students

What is plastic good for?

How is plastic harmful to us?

How is plastic harmful to our environment & ocean life?

What can we use instead of plastic?

Why is it important that we recycle plastic?

How long do you think it takes for a plastic bottle to dissolve?

Please us the Other Resources Page before you start the art project



Materials

- Plastic bottle (Coffee Creamer)
- Plastic Grocery Bag or Paper
- Piece of Aluminum Foil or Tape
- Tape like Masking or Packing Tape
- Yarn/String- about 2.5 feet
- Scissors
- Optional: Paint/Markers/Stickers

Other Learning Resources

Books About Can & Recycling

The Adventures of a Plastic Bottle by Alison Inches

(watch a video of it here! <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VKLo512IS2Q>)

A Planet Full of Plastic: And How You Can Help by Neal Layton

Pesky Plastic: An Environmental Story by Leticia Colon de Mejias

Saving Tally: An Adventure into the Great Pacific Plastic Patch by Serena Lane Ferrari



Learn More About Plastic Bottles

<https://www.funkidslive.com/learn/howsitmade/plastic-bottles-made/#>

<https://your.caerphilly.gov.uk/kidsgogreen/fact-zone/plastic-facts>

<https://www.kidsagainstplastic.co.uk/tag/plastic-bottles>

Videos about Plastic & Plastic Pollution

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VUUUxOI715s>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xFPoIU5iiYQ>

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_6xINyWPpB8&feature=youtu.be



Instructions

Parents should help with the steps in Green



1. Gather all your materials
2. Remove the labels off your clean plastic bottle.
3. Now have an adult cut the bottle in half. Keep the top half with the lid & make something else with the bottle half.
4. Optional: Decorate the bottle with colored tape, paint, permanent markers or stickers.
5. Take your plastic bag (or some paper) & make a ball. Then use the foil to cover it. Make sure your ball will fit in the open end of the bottle.
6. The foil will help you be able to mold it into a ball shape & retain it's form. If you do not have any foil, you can just cover it with a heavy tape to form a ball shape.
7. Tuck one end of the yarn/string into your ball & cover it with the foil & tape it down with heavy tape. (scotch tape won't stick to the aluminum so you have to use masking or packing tape instead)
8. Tie the other end of the yarn/string in a knot around the top of the bottle with it's cap off. Now put the cap back on the bottle & you have a game!
9. To play: Hold the bottle on the end with the cap with the open end of the bottle facing up & swing the bottle so the ball flies up & try to catch it in the bottle. See how many time you have to try before you get it in. Can you get the ball in multiple times in a row?!
10. Have Fun & challenge your friends!



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