

# RECYCLE IT

**Purpose:** Students will show respect for the environment by demonstrating the act of recycling. Students will also classify items in reference to their characteristics.

**Suggested Grade Level:** K - 1

**Science SOL:** Earth Resources K.11, 1.8

**Equipment/Materials Needed:**

1. Different types of balls and/or bean bags
2. Hoops (approx. 6) to be used for recycle bins

**Advance Preparation:**

1. Place hoops down in a large circle.
2. Toss all of the balls and bean bags in the center of the circle.
3. Place one of each different item in its own hoop. Ex. One green bean bag in one hoop, one blue bean bag in another hoop, one tennis ball in one hoop, one fleece ball in another hoop, etc.

**Directions:**

1. Discuss Earth Day with students.
2. Discuss recycling and why it is good for the environment.
3. Explain to students that even though lots of things can be recycled, they still need to be separated by their characteristics: glass, plastic, paper, etc.
4. Instruct students to enter (using an assigned physical activity) the middle of the playing area, select one of the items, and take it to the correct “recycle bin.”
5. Continue retrieving and placing items until all have been placed in the “recycle bins”.
6. At the end of the round, each hoop should contain things that are similar. All tennis balls, all fleece balls, all red bean bags, all plastic waffle balls, etc.

**Teaching Suggestions:**

1. Have lots of items so students get a lot of activity.

**Modifications/Variations:**

1. Choose any characteristics that you want to work on for this activity. If you are working on textures, colors, size, or shape, have each hoop stand for the different characteristic.

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