



A Lesson on A Better Community by Rasheera Rivas

Grade Level: Grade 3

Subject Area: English Language Arts

Lesson Length: 2 hours

Lesson Keywords: Adopted, Brought, Recycle, and Environment

Lesson Description: The goal of this lesson is to educate students on the importance of recycling and our environment. In this lesson, students mainly will be utilizing their reading and writing skills that they have been practicing to this point. The underlying meaning of this lesson is to show these students that a little bit of effort goes a long way when it comes to recycling and the environment. These students will read the story and will be able to write in their own words how they can make a difference in their community.

Common Core Standards Covered with This Lesson

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.3.1: Ask and answer questions to demonstrate understanding of a text, referring explicitly to the text as the basis for the answers.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.3.4: Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, distinguishing literal from nonliteral language.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.3.7: Explain how specific aspects of a text's illustrations contribute to what is conveyed by the words in a story (e.g., create mood, emphasize aspects of a character or setting).

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.3.10: By the end of the year, read and comprehend literature, including stories, dramas, and poetry, at the high end of the grades 2-3 text complexity band independently and proficiently.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.3.1: Ask and answer questions to demonstrate understanding of a text, referring explicitly to the text as the basis for the answers.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RF.3.3: Know and apply grade-level phonics and word analysis skills in decoding words.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RF.3.4a: Read grade-level text with purpose and understanding.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.SL.3.1: Engage effectively in a range of collaborative discussions (one-on-one, in groups, and teacher-led) with diverse partners on grade 3 topics and texts, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.SL.3.2: Determine the main ideas and supporting details of a text read aloud or information presented in diverse media and formats, including visually, quantitatively, and orally.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.SL.3.4: Report on a topic or text, tell a story, or recount an experience with appropriate facts and

relevant, descriptive details, speaking clearly at an understandable pace.

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Lesson Content: Book/Story/Reading Passage

Instructions: Please read the following reading passage as many times as needed (aloud and silent) before starting to go through other lesson pages. Understanding the content of this passage is very important since the lesson activities will be all about this content. Feel free to print the passage if needed.

A Better Community

by

Content: My daughter brought a note home. I looked at the note and smiled. So we will have a recycling center, I said.

She started to explain why it is important to recycle. I know, I said, but I don't have time. She thought of a way to recycle. She set up a bag in the kitchen. She said it would be for plastic. We would put plastic in there. Then once a month we would take the plastic to the Recycle Center. She said that plastic takes us lots of energy to make. And she said that it is hard for the environment when people throw it out.

It seemed like a good idea. But then the bag got full. In one week we had filled it with empty plastic bottles.

My daughter said we should look at what we use. We are using too much plastic. So we looked for ways to use less plastic.

I told my neighbor about this. She liked the idea. She started keeping her plastic in a bag. We all went together to the Recycle Center on the first Saturday. We brought our plastic.

When we got there, we saw many bags. People had brought lots of trash. They brought paper and metal, too. Now that we have this center, it is easier to recycle, said my neighbor.

When we were walking back from the Recycle Center, I saw a change. The street was cleaner. Most days I see trash in the street. People litter. But there was no litter today. My daughter said that another class had adopted the street. They were picking up litter there and taking it to the Recycle Center.

I said this is really big. It is about more than plastic. It is about lots of changes.

Task 1: Vocabulary

Instructions: Please complete the following vocabulary activity by choosing the correct meaning of each word selected from the passage and use of each word correctly in a sentence.

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Q: 1 WordPhrase: Adopted **WordPhraseTier:** 3

Question: 1. The author uses the word "Adopted" in the passage. What is the context of this word in this passage?

A: choose to take up or take care of

B: to take and never take care of it

C: to not take and ignore

D: none of the above

Question: Choose the sentence that uses the word "Adopted" correctly.

A: they had adopted pencils already

B: they went to the store and adopted a pet

C: the pet adopted a family

D: none of the above

Q: 2 WordPhrase: Recycle **WordPhraseTier:** 3

Question: What is recycling?

A: the action taken by a person to convert waste into reusable materials

B: to throw away material and not re-use

C: to do nothing

D: none of the above

Question: In the passage, the author uses the following phrase ?She started to explain why it is important to recycle?. What is the context of this phrase in this passage?

A: To throw away things.

B: To save old material to make other new products from them.

C: to store old materials.

D: none of the above

Q: 3 WordPhrase: Environment **WordPhraseTier:** 2

Question: Choose the sentence that uses the word "Environment" correctly.

A: he grew up in a loving environment

B: recycling is bad for the environment

C: trash is good for the environment

D: none of the above

Question: The Author in this story stated ?She said that plastic takes us lots of energy to make. And she said that it is hard for the environment when people throw it out. ? In this sentence, what does the word "environment" mean?

A: the area where something or someone lives.

B: the place where garbage goes.

C: the place we recycle at.

D: none of the above

Q: 4 WordPhrase: Brought **WordPhraseTier:** 2

Question: In the passage the word ?Brought? is used. What is the correct way to use this word?

A: I brought you something to eat

B: Who bought the orange juice with fur in it?

C: Who bought the orange juice with fur in it?

D: none of the above

Question: The author uses the following phrase in the passage ?My daughter brought a note home?. Who does this phrase mean in this passage?

A: the daughter took a note home

B: the daughter took a note to the school

C: there?s no notes in this passage

D: none of the above

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Task 2: Forum Discussion

Instructions: This discussion forum will have questions for students to respond. Read the posted questions, and respond to each. Students are responsible for posting one initial and and two peer responses for each topic.

1 - Discussion Activity

1. What have we learn from the passage?
 2. Why is recycling important?
 3. How can we establish or implement recycling activities in our community or environment??
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Task 3: Writing Activity

Instructions: In this writing activity please use the blank box below to write a 100 word minimal essay describing two ways that you and your family can recycle at home and one way that it can help the environment. Please make sure to include the products that you will be recycling?

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