



## A Lesson on A Better Community by Erin Frohbergh

**Grade Level:** Grade 3

**Subject Area:** English Language Arts

**Lesson Length:** 1 hour

**Lesson Keywords:** Recycling

Science

Reading

**Lesson Description:** English

### 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.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.RI.3.2: Determine the main idea of a text; recount the key details and explain how they support the main idea.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.3.4: Determine the meaning of general academic and domain-specific words and phrases in a text relevant to a grade 3 topic or subject area.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.3.7: Use information gained from illustrations (e.g., maps, photographs) and the words in a text to demonstrate understanding of the text (e.g., where, when, why, and how key events occur).

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.3.9: Compare and contrast the most important points and key details presented in two texts on the same topic.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.3.7: Conduct short research projects that build knowledge about a topic.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.3.4a: Use sentence-level context as a clue to the meaning of a word or phrase.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.3.5a: Distinguish the literal and nonliteral meanings of words and phrases in context (e.g., take steps).

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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.

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## 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.

**Q: 1 WordPhrase:** community **WordPhraseTier:** 2

**Question:** The title of this passage is "A Better Community". What does the word "Community" mean?

- A: A dance team
- B: A recycling center
- C: A group of people living in the same area
- D: A place you store trash

**Question:** Which sentence uses the word "community" correctly?

- A: Last night I fell into the community and got all wet.
  - B: I belong to a community full of nice people.
  - C: I saw the community dancing on TV this morning.
  - D: I found a community laying on the street, and returned it to its owner.
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**Q: 2 WordPhrase:** litter **WordPhraseTier:** 2

**Question:** What does the word 'Litter' mean in this sentence, "They were picking up litter there and taking it to the Recycle Center."?

- A: Trash
- B: Cats
- C: People
- D: Cars

**Question:** Which sentence uses the word "Litter" correctly?

- A: The volunteers picked up the litter on the beach.
  - B: My mom left me a litter to use.
  - C: Would you like a cup of litter with dinner?
  - D: I am litter with anger.
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**Q: 3 WordPhrase:** Recycling Center **WordPhraseTier:** 3

**Question:** What is a "Recycling Center"?

- A: A place to buy bikes.
- B: A place to eat dinner.
- C: A place where you can take recyclable materials to be processed.
- D: A place you visit on vacation.

**Question:** Which sentence uses the term "recycling center" correctly?

- A: I went to the recycling center to find a new dog.
  - B: The recycling center cleans water for humans to drink.
  - C: Mickey Mouse lives in a recycling center.
  - D: We go to the recycling center once a month to drop off our cans.
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**Q: 4 WordPhrase:** Recycle **WordPhraseTier:** 3

**Question:** What does the word "Recycle" mean in this sentence: She thought of a way to recycle.

- A: To brush teeth
- B: To use again
- C: To scream
- D: To eat

**Question:** Which sentence uses the word "Recycle" correctly?

- A: I missed the bus, so I hopped on my recycle and rode to school.
  - B: My mom told me to get my baby sister from her room but I recycled.
  - C: I recycle my bottles into vases for my flowers.
  - D: Recycle is just a fancy word for running.
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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 two peer responses for each topic.

1 - What does the girl in the story do to recycle?

Her mother told her that they do not have time to recycle, so she thought of a new idea. What was her idea on how to recycle more?

2 - What does the recycling center do?

What changes did the daughter see after they opened the recycling center??

3 - Is a recycling center a good or a bad thing?

How does the author's community react to the new recycling center? Will this recycling center help the people or make things worse?

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Task 3: Writing Activity  
**Instructions:** You are to write and post here 500 words essay on .... Make sure to provide specific examples.  
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