



## A Lesson on A Better Community by Heather Connor

**Grade Level:** Grade 3

**Subject Area:** English Language Arts

**Lesson Length:** 1 hour

**Lesson Keywords:** [http://lessonfarm.com/lesson\\_new](http://lessonfarm.com/lesson_new)

**Lesson Description:** This lesson's goal is to have students be exposed to new concepts and vocabulary . Students will also create their own thoughtful reflection on recycling and utilize new vocabulary . The student will watch a short film on recycling and write about the impact they can have on 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.

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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.

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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.

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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.

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

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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:** Recycling Center **WordPhraseTier:** 3

**Question:** When the daughter brought a note home the mother said " so we will have to go to the recycling center " Where is it that they will go?

**A:** A place you go to play.

**B:** A place where they make plastic.

**C:** a place that collects trash.

**D:** a place where you bring items that can be treated and processed (used or waste materials) to make suitable for reuse.

**Question:** Which one of these sentences uses the recycling center in the correct context.

**A:** Do you want to go see a movie at the recycling center today?

**B:** After school lets go get some ice cream at the recycling center.

**C:** I need to go drop off my bottles at the recycling center.

**D:** Socceer practice is at 2pm at the recycling center.

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**Q: 2 WordPhrase:** Litter **WordPhraseTier:** 2

**Question:** In the story "litter " means?

**A:** There is a litter of dogs

**B:** Finding litter at the beach.

**C:** To clean out the cat litter at home.

**D:** Trash on the street.

**Question:** What statement uses "litter" in the same context as the story?

**A:** The litter of puppies are so cute .

**B:** Look at all this litter on the beach.

**C:** I loved the litter my grandmother sent me .

**D:** My cat is always kicking around the litter.

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**Q: 3 WordPhrase:** Recycling **WordPhraseTier:** 3

**Question:** In the story the teacher sends home information about?

**A:** Recycling

**B:** A skate center

**C:** A recreation center

**D:** A shopping Center

**Question:** What is the correct use of the word recycling.

**A:** My mom and dad want to take me recycling.

**B:** If I am good my mom will buy me recycling.

**C:** I want to learn how to recycle so I can help out my community.

**D:** When I see recycling I want to pick it up.

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**Q: 4 WordPhrase:** Adopt **WordPhraseTier:** 2

**Question:** My daughter said that another class had ?adopted? the street. What does the word Adopt mean in this story?

**A:** The class will look for cracks in the street.

**B:** The class will buy a new sign for the street.

**C:** The class is going to go on a feild trip to the street.

**D:** The class will clean up the street and keep it clean.

**Question:** Which one of the sentence below uses the word "Adopt" correctly?

**A:** My family is going to adopt a puppy.

**B:** The recycling center is so far, I hope we can adopt a car.

**C:** My mom said we need to adopt some dinner tonight.

**D:** Adopting is so fun !

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## Task 2: Forum Discussion

**Instructions:** Instructions :

- 1) Read the posted questions, and respond to each.
- 2 )Answer the questions below in a complete sentence .
- 3) Be sure to give specific examples for each sentence sentence .

What changes did the mother see due to the opening of the recycling center?  
Why was it a good idea to use a bag for the plastic bottles ?  
How will the community benefit from the recycling center?

### 1 - Test

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### Task 3: Writing Activity

#### **Instructions:** Instructions:

Watch? the video :

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BaFpv03hq-4>

Please tell me in your own words :

1. Why you think recycling is a good idea ?
2. What can you do to help your community recycle?
3. How did the girl feel when she helped her community ?

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