

**The Landfill Link**  
Pre-Visit Lesson #3

**PAPER VS. PLASTIC**

**GOALS**

- a) To articulate the volume of materials we consume regularly.
- b) To help categorize those objects as recyclable and renewable.

**MATERIALS**

1. Water bottles (1 per student)
2. Cereal boxes (1 per student)
3. Tape
4. Measuring stick and tape measure
5. Notebook for recording data
6. Camera to document event and end result

**PROCEDURE**

1. Display images of recycled art. Ask class to identify materials used to create piece.
2. Discuss why artists make recycled art.
3. Move class to schoolyard or clear a large space in the classroom.
4. Divide the class into equal parts.
5. Note that these materials can be recycled into alternate objects (besides art!). See list for process and suggestions.
6. Distribute bottles & tape to one group, boxes and tape to another.
7. Ask students to create the largest sculpture possible using just their designated material and tape.
8. Measure sculptures and document results.
9. Declare a winner!
10. Review the effects of recyclable materials being appropriately recycled rather than just dumped. "Imagine that every class in the school produces this much waste weekly. Now multiply it by the number of schools in the district, the borough, etc. "

**EVALUATION**

1. To what extent were the students able to see the effects of proper recycling?  
Of wasteful dumping?
2. How will this activity inspire their responsibility to recycling?

NY STANDARDS:  
M/S/T: 1, 3, 6  
ARTS: 1, 2, 4

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