

Chapter 28 Lesson 3: Protecting Land and Water

Introduction:

In this lesson, you learned about how you can protect the environment by conserving resources and reducing waste. One way to reduce the amount of waste you produce is to recycle different kinds of materials. At this Web site you can learn more about the things Americans throw away and the benefits of recycling.

Links to Explore:

Thomas Recycling Facts and Statistics

<http://www.thomasrecycling.com/facts.html>

Directions:

- Click on the link and read the recycling statistics.
 - When you have finished, answer the following questions:
1. What are the three largest categories of municipal solid waste?
 2. What percentage of the energy needed to make aluminum from bauxite ore can be saved by recycling aluminum cans?
 3. What is *lightweighting*?
 4. How many times can glass be recycled?
 5. What total weight of resources can be saved for every ton of glass that is recycled?
 6. How many times can Styrofoam be recycled?

Answers:

1. Yard waste, corrugated boxes, and food waste
2. 95 percent
3. Using less material to make a new aluminum can
4. It can be recycled indefinitely.
5. More than a ton
6. Zero

Additional Links to Explore:

Use the links below to gather additional information on the activity topic. When appropriate, have students extend their research to include important concepts contained in these Web sites.

The Rotten Truth About Garbage

<http://www.astc.org/exhibitions/rotten/rthome.htm>

Household Waste Management

<http://www.purdue.edu/dp/envirosoft/housewaste/src/title2.htm>

Municipal Solid Waste

<http://www.epa.gov/msw/>