Post-Tour & Post-Presentation Wrap-Up

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K - 5th grade

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Overview

In 2018 alone, the RethinkWaste service area sent 181,189 tons of waste to the landfill (RethinkWaste, 2019). Over the course of the tour and/or presentation, students have come to understand why it is important to decrease that amount. By working together and making small but significant changes, we can reduce it!

Students will have an opportunity to reflect on what they've learned, what they will do differently, and why it matters.

This lesson concludes in an introspective walk, where students will use their senses to appreciate nature.

Purpose & Learning Objectives

This activity allows students to reflect on what they have learned about waste and how they can change their habits. Students will internalize the lessons and enjoy nature by taking a mindful walk.

Driving Question

How does our waste impact the environment? What can we do to decrease our impact?
Part I: Reflection

Together, we have investigated what waste is, where it goes, and how we can reduce what goes into the landfill. We know how to sort properly, what happens to the waste we put into the 3 bins, and why it is so important (and fun!) to try repairing and reusing things before throwing them away.

Reflect on the tour or presentation you participated in, and answer the following discussion questions:

1. What is something you learned that surprised you?

2. Describe how you felt about waste before the tour or presentation and compare it to how you feel now. Are you more confident about what goes into the different bins?

3. Why do you think it is important that we learn about waste?
Part II: Nature Walk

It is important to connect to our environment, so we can better understand why we need to protect it. Let’s stretch our muscles and enjoy the great outdoors! With your guardian’s permission, go for a walk around your neighborhood (or another natural setting) with a family member or friend.

Pay close attention to your five senses while out and about: sight, smell, hearing, touch, and taste. Sometimes we forget to appreciate the small, everyday things because we are so used to having them around - like the sound of birds chirping or the nice cool feeling of the breeze on your skin!

1. What is one interesting thing that you saw during your walk? How did you feel when you saw it?
2. What is one quiet thing you heard during your walk? Where was the sound coming from?

3. Gently touch a safe item during your walk, like grass, a flower petal, or tree bark. Circle the descriptors: Was the item hard / soft / furry / prickly / rough / smooth? Did it make you feel happy / sad / excited / nervous / scared? Write your other feelings below!

4. Describe a smell that you encountered during your walk. What was your reaction to the smell?

5. Our final sense: taste! What was the first thing you ate when you got home from your walk? What did you enjoy about eating this item?
Use the blank space below to draw one thing that made you happy during your walk. Thank you for working hard to keep Earth beautiful! 😊