

Leadership in Environmental Action Projects (LEAP) Lesson Overview

ACTIVITY	AUDIENCE	LESSON SUMMARY	ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS
Sustain Game	Grades K-12	In this hands on game, students will balance taking the resources they need to survive against preserving some resources for future generations.	How can I better understand my role in using natural resources sustainably? What does it mean to use resources sustainably?
Living the 3Rs	Grades K-5	The 3Rs are a great way to conceptualize actions that help the environment. In this lesson, students will discuss what can and cannot be recycled, as well as ways to reduce and reuse these items.	What can I do to reduce waste and conserve resources?
Decomposer Detectives	Grades K-5	Composting is a great way to teach about life cycles. In this lesson, students learn the basics of composting through hands-on exploration of an active vermicomposting (worm compost) bin.	How can humans mirror natural processes to reduce waste and live more sustainably?
Making Recycled Paper	Grades 1-5	Students work through the process of making paper from scrap paper. This exercise helps students better understand the recycling process of turning waste into new products for the market.	How does the recycling process help conserve natural resources?
Full Circle Stories	Grades 4-8	Explore the definition of sustainability and how students can use stories as a way to encourage others to be sustainable. Students will write a creative short story about the adventure of one item from production to recycling or disposal.	How can story telling help people understand the impact of their actions? Can creative stories inspire people to change their daily behavior?
Garbology 101	Grades 4-8	Students use a 3D tabletop model to explore the engineering and design of modern landfills in order to better understand where our garbage goes when we throw things away.	How does the waste we generate impact us and our environment?
HHW or Safe?	Grades 4-8	Through a discussion and interactive product sorting activity students will be introduced to the topic of household hazardous waste and the impacts of these products to human health and the environment.	What responsibility do consumers, like myself, have in protecting human health and the environment from hazardous materials?
Recycling Science	Grades 6-12	Learn how Material Recovery Facilities (MRFs) and manufacturers use science and engineering to separate and recover materials. See how physics and chemistry are creating a more sustainable world!	What role do science and engineering have in creating and managing waste?
Green or Greenwashing	Grades 6-12	In this program, students are encouraged to put on their critical and conscientious consumer thinking caps! They will be equipped to evaluate product labeling with a series of informed questions and empowered by their opportunity to make impactful choices as consumers.	What steps does it take to become a more conscientious consumer? What tools and techniques do advertisers use to convey their ideas, messages, and beliefs?
Sustainability Shark Tank	Grades 6-12	Are you ready to use your creativity to create a new recycled product? In this class, students will learn about the three-legged stool of sustainability and use that framework to develop a new product out of recycled material.	How can businesses adapt to serve social, environmental, and economic needs?

Questions? Contact Maggie McCoy at mmccoy@mobot.org | 314-577-0281

LEAP is a student-action program that seeks to reduce waste in school communities throughout the St. Louis region. LEAP is a program of the EarthWays Center of the Missouri Botanical Garden. Funding for LEAP comes from grant funding from the St. Louis-Jefferson Solid Waste Management District and Missouri Department of Natural Resources utilizing landfill tipping fee surcharges.

