

## Grade 4

### SWA Classroom Presentation Pre Lesson Plan

#### Objectives:

- 1.) Students will gain an understanding of the environmental benefits of recycling.
- 2.) Students will construct meaning from a recycling article by identifying the main idea, the details and the facts.

#### Sunshine State Standards:

##### Science:

*Processes that Shape the Earth*  
Standard 2: Benchmark 1:  
Knows that reusing, recycling, and reducing the use of natural resources improve and protect the quality of life.

##### Language Arts:

###### Reading

Standard 2: Benchmark 1:  
Reads text and determines the main idea or essential message, identifies relevant supporting details and facts, and arranges in chronological order.

##### Materials:

- 1) Illustration of Transfer Station
- 2) Pictures of recyclables
- 3) "Recycling Matters" activity sheet
- 4) "Recycling Matters" activity answer sheet

**Time:**  
35 minutes

##### Evaluation:

Assess students' understanding of the material presented by questioning them throughout the lesson.

Review students' answers to the "Recycle Matters" activity sheet.

##### Homework:

Ask the students to write a paragraph describing the recycling program at their home.



#### Background for Teachers:

The garbage from your home, apartment or townhome is collected by garbage trucks and taken to one of five transfer stations located throughout Palm Beach County. At the transfer station, garbage is transferred onto large semi-trailer trucks. The large trucks can hold 4 truck loads of the smaller ones. *(This procedure allows the smaller trucks more time on their route, it reduces traffic on the highway and saves fuel.)*

After the garbage is loaded into the larger trucks, it is driven to the Solid Waste Authority of Palm Beach County's Waste-to-Energy facility in West Palm Beach. The lightweight garbage is shredded and burned so that it can be used as a fuel source to generate electricity. The ashes leftover from the burning process are placed in a sanitary landfill along with any unburned garbage. *(Sometimes people say that garbage goes into a dump; however, dumps are no longer used because they were not environmentally-friendly. State and federal regulations require landfills to have many environmental protective systems installed and maintained. In addition, the landfill is monitored on a regular basis.)*

The landfill is filling up rapidly because so many people throw away a lot of garbage. One way to stop the landfill from filling up is to recycle as much of the garbage as possible. Right now in Palm Beach County, the following items are recyclable at home:

#### Place in the recycling bin for containers:

*aluminum cans  
aluminum foil  
aluminum trays  
glass bottles & jars  
milk cartons  
juice cartons  
drink boxes  
all plastic containers*

#### Place in the recycling bin for paper:

*newspapers  
magazines  
catalogs  
phone books  
brown paper bags  
corrugated cardboard*

