

THE 3 R'S

REDUCE, REUSE, AND RECYCLE



OBJECTIVE:

In this activity each student will learn how to make their own reusable bag from an old t-shirt in addition to learning about the importance of the 3 R's: Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle.

WHAT ARE THE 3 R'S?



Reduce:

The first and most important R, to reduce means to use less materials and resources to minimize the amount of waste we create.

- Save water by taking shorter showers and turning the sink off when you are brushing your teeth.
- Save energy by turning off the lights in a room when you aren't in there.
- Print on both sides of the paper to reduce paper.
- Buy snacks in bulk instead of individually wrapped.
- Ditch plastic bags and choose a reusable bag.



Reuse:

Reuse means to look at ways you can use items over and over again instead of throwing them away after a single use.

- Refill a water bottle with water from home instead of buying a new one
- Old jars can be used to store snacks and food items.
- Reuse old clothing to make bags and cleaning rags.
- Donate items instead of throwing them away.



Recycle:

To recycle something means that it will be transformed again into a raw material that can be shaped into a new item. At home, we put an item that is recyclable in the recycling bin instead of the trash can. Items you can recycle are:

- Plastic- bottles, food containers, laundry detergent bottles, etc.
- Aluminum and tin cans
- Paper
- Cardboard

T-SHIRT BAG ACTIVITY

SUPPLIES

- Old t-shirt
- Scissors
- Ruler
- Marker

KEY QUESTIONS

- How does this activity use the 3 R's?
- How does practicing the 3 R's help our environment?
- What are other ways can you practice the 3 R's?

HOW TO CREATE YOUR T-SHIRT BAG

- 1** Gather your t-shirt and all of your supplies.



- 2** Cut the sleeves off your t-shirt to make it a tank top.



- 3** Cut the collar so your bag has a large opening. Then flip inside out.



- 4** On the bottom of your t-shirt cut strips that are 2 inches long by 1 inch wide. The end pieces need to be cut on the side to create two strips.



- 5** Tie the matching front and back strip in a double knot. Do this across the bottom of the t-shirt



- 6** Turn your t-shirt right side out and your bag is complete!

