

RECYCLING LESSON PLANS

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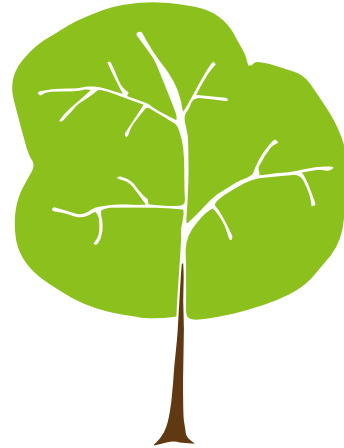


5E PRINTABLE LESSONS TO PROMOTE RECYCLING

Brought to you by WeAreTeachers and PepsiCo Recycling

Dear Educators,

You're teaching a generation of kids who will have a huge impact on our environmental future. Lessons about recycling, sustainability, and eco-friendly practices are incredibly important. To help bring these important topics to your classroom, we pulled together five complete lesson plans in the popular 5E lesson format. These lessons focus on key subject



areas like science, technology, and language arts. Through the easy-to-implement 5E model, you'll be able to incorporate these into units you already have planned for the year.

For even more resources, we recommend checking out the free lessons, articles, ideas, and printables on PepsiCo Recycling's website, PepsiCoRecycling.com. You can also sign up to participate in their recycling program for schools, Recycle Rally.

Thanks for all you do as educators in teaching our future generation.



THE BASICS OF 5E

The 5E model is an easy, hands-on way to create lesson plans for your classroom. You can either choose to do the activity in a single lesson, or you can spread it out over several days or weeks.

There's no perfect or right way to do these lessons. In fact, adapting them to work for you and your classroom needs is definitely recommended. Based on your students' age, interests, or the unit you're trying to cover, always adjust to make them work for you.

Best of all, they're designed to be printed on a single 8½ x 11 sheet of paper, making it even easier to incorporate into your daily lesson plans.

Engage: Introduce the topic.

In the engage area, introduce your students to the topic in a clear, concise way. Make sure all your students have a strong understanding of the main concepts before moving forward.

Explore: Go to the lab.

Now it's time to really get hands on with the lessons. This section includes an interactive activity where students get to put their own personal touch on the project.

Explain: Take notes.

The notes section, where students write about what they learn, is a feature in all the projects. This will help students grasp important concepts they've been putting into practice in the lab section.

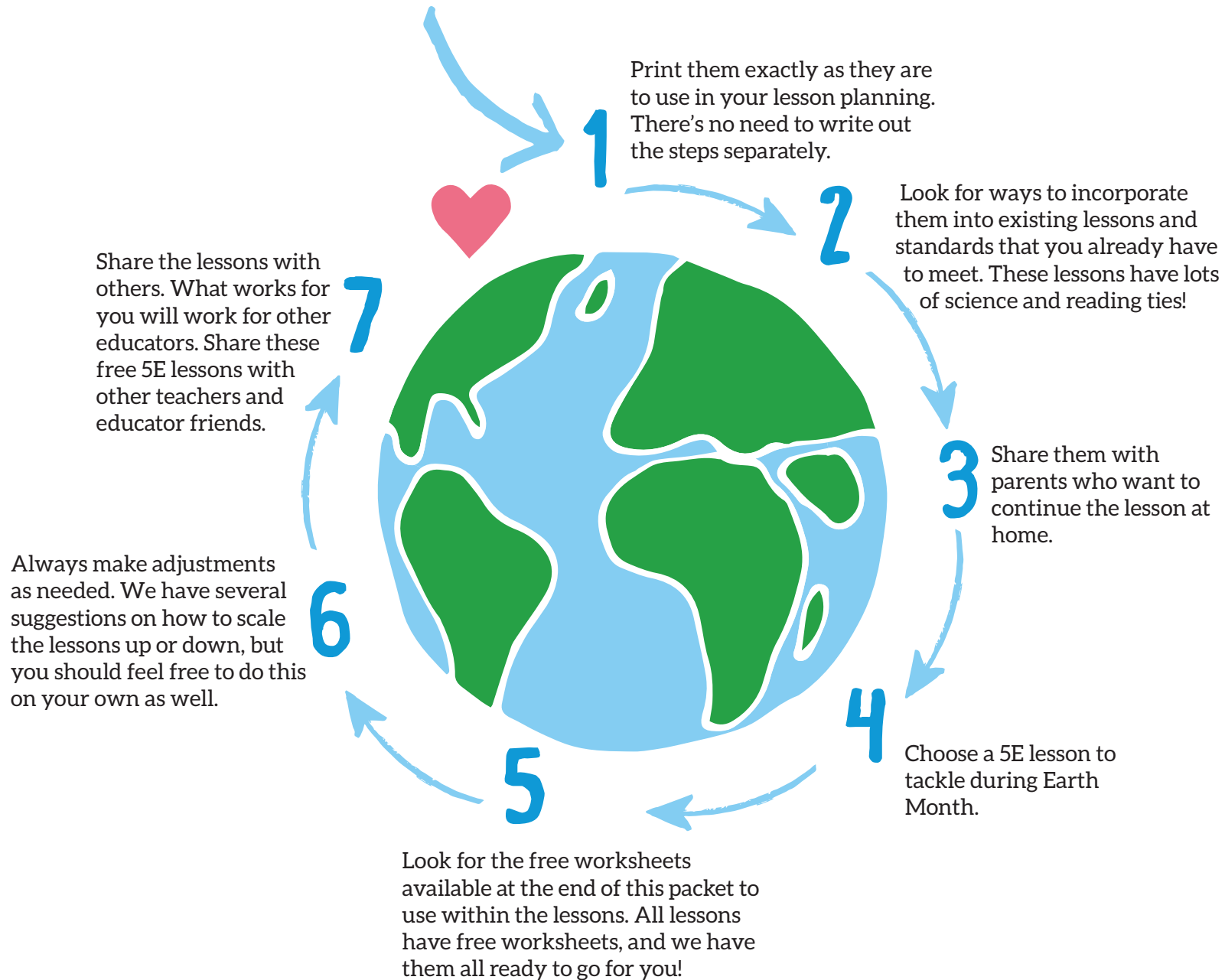
Elaborate: Review and extend.

This section checks for understanding, and then it encourages students (and you) to take it to the next level. What more can you do with this lesson? What questions have come up that you can tackle? This is a great place to grow.

Evaluate: Check for understanding.

Each lesson should have a follow-up to check for understanding. If much of your class didn't understand a key concept or takeaway, it might be time to go back to the lab or review and extend again.

7 TIPS FOR USING THE 5E LESSONS



Lesson 5

INCREASE RECYCLING IN YOUR SCHOOL & COMMUNITY

MATERIALS »

- Paper
- Pens and pencils
- Chart paper
- Markers
- “My Scientific Method on Recycling” worksheet

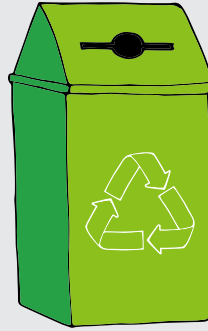
1 ENGAGE: INTRODUCE THE TOPIC

Teacher: Lead a classroom discussion about the recycling or other environmental programs at school and in the community.

Student: Answer questions like:

- What items can you recycle or compost at your school?
- Does everyone at your school recycle or compost?
- Why is it important to recycle?
- What do you think would increase participation in recycling?

Students will use the scientific method to increase recycling in their schools and communities.



Grades: 3-8

Core Concepts:
Science, Community Outreach

Key Question:
How can schools and communities increase participation in recycling programs?

2 EXPLORE: GO TO THE LAB

Teacher: Put students into groups and work with them to identify an aspect of their school’s recycling or other environmental program they want to improve. It’s OK if there’s no existing program. Next, help teams devise an accurate way to gather baseline data and a meaningful strategy for increasing participation.

Student: Work with your group to identify a single, measurable activity around recycling you can improve in your school or community. For example, you might set a goal to collect a certain number of bottles and cans by a specific date. You can also look to get involved in recycling programs, like Recycle Rally, or recycling crayons. Write a plan with several measurable goals you will try to accomplish. This could include educating others, hanging up posters or signs in the community, adding recycling bins, signing up for a school recycling program, etc. Then spend at least three weeks implementing your new strategy.

3 EXPLAIN: TAKE NOTES

Teacher: Introduce the scientific method, identifying and defining the main steps: Question, Research, Hypothesis, Experiment, Conclusion. Put each step on its own sheet of chart paper and place each sheet in a different part of the room. Have students go around the room and write on the chart paper how they used each step to implement their plan. Note: This part will likely happen while your project is going on, so they’ll be in the middle of the experiment phase. Lead discussions about how you will tackle the rest of the scientific method with this project. Hand out the “My Scientific Method on Recycling” worksheet to encourage students to keep with their project and use throughout the process.

Student: Think about the parts of the scientific method you’ve already completed during the project. Identify parts of the scientific method that you still need to do. Fill out your worksheet and use it as a tool throughout your project.

4 ELABORATE: REVIEW AND EXTEND

Teacher: Guide students in a discussion about what steps of the scientific method they have completed and what their next steps could be. For example, ask them to think about how they might refine their strategy for improving recycling participation (hypothesis) and test it further.

Student: Return to the steps of the scientific method and finalize your plan. Which steps have you completed? Which steps do you think you should go back to and do again?

5 EVALUATE: CHECK FOR UNDERSTANDING

Teacher: Assess students on the steps of the scientific method by asking them to describe each step and give specific examples of how the steps correspond to their efforts to increase recycling at their school.

Student: Really think about (and write about) how you completed the steps of the scientific method through this project. How did it help you create a good plan to increase recycling in your school and community?

MY SCIENTIFIC METHOD ON RECYCLING



Name: _____

Date: _____

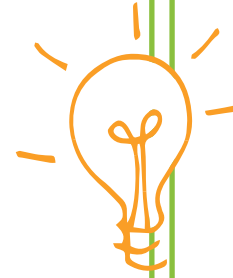
1. QUESTION



2. RESEARCH



3. HYPOTHESIS



4. EXPERIMENT

5. CONCLUSION

