Collection Yard

An Eco-Friendly Waste Collection Yard!

Key words:

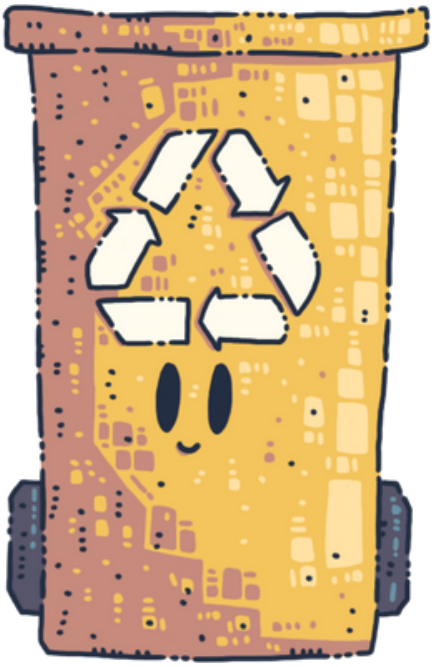
LEGO, waste collection yard, recycling, sustainability, creativity, organization

Target group:

primary school pupils (ages 6-11)

Objectives:

The activity aims to promote reflection on the importance of recycling and reusing materials, fostering a greater awareness of environmental sustainability. Additionally, it aims to stimulate creativity, imagination, and critical thinking as participants design and build their projects. Through this process, students will develop their construction and design skills while also promoting teamwork and collaboration, emphasizing the value of working together towards an eco-friendly goal.



General Guideline on Time Allocation:

The duration needed to carry out this activity may vary depending on the specific group of children. Teachers are encouraged to adapt the implementation according to the needs, interests, and dynamics of the group.

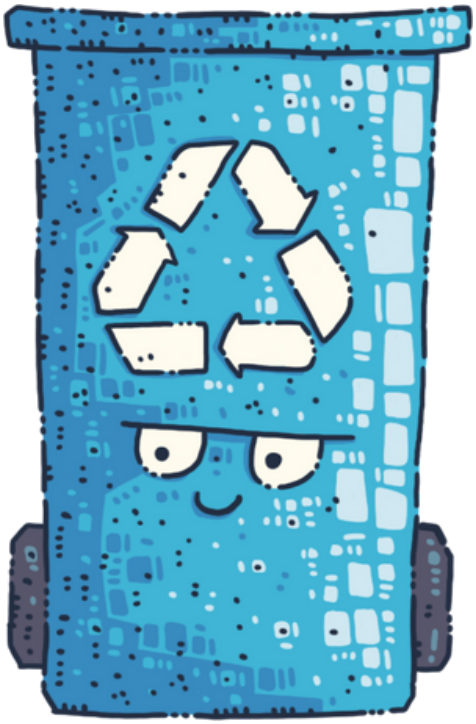
In the preparatory phase, teachers may use a variety of activities to introduce and contextualize the chosen topic. These can include discussions, videos, drawings, storytelling, or even a field trip, depending on the age and background knowledge of the children.

The main construction phase, during which children plan and build their urban element using LEGO bricks, should typically not exceed 45 to 60 minutes. However, this phase often stimulates further curiosity and questions among the children, potentially leading to extended engagement or follow-up activities. For more detailed instructions and pedagogical support on how to implement activities of INNO–kids project, please download the Teacher's Methodological Guide.

Materials and Resources Needed:

- LEGOs of different shapes, sizes, and colors
- Miniatures of recyclable objects (such as cans, plastic bottles, papers, etc.)
- Sheets of paper and colored pencils
- Signs with symbols indicating types of recyclable materials, recycling instructions, etc.
- Information sheets about recycling, composting, and sustainability

Note: In the absence of elements in Lego pieces, invite children to draw, color, and cut out on paper, or build using other materials.



Introduction:

Explain to the children that a collection Yard is a place where different types of materials are gathered and separated for recycling. Emphasize the importance of recycling in preserving the environment and reducing waste. Explain how each material can be recycled and reused properly and how correct waste separation can facilitate the recycling process.
Show photographs or videos of collection yards and explain how the recycling process works. Discuss composting as a process that is accessible to everyone and beneficial to the environment.

Procedure:

Preparation
Divide the children into small groups according to the number of participants and availability of Legos. Each group chooses a type of material to focus on its collection site (for example: plastic, paper, metal, glass).

Construction
Using Legos, the groups start building their collection yard, organizing and separating the different types of materials creatively.

Details
After the main construction, children can decorate their collection site with additional elements such as plants, animals, and signs indicative of recycling and composting.

Presentation
Each group presents their collection site to colleagues, explaining the type of waste they are exploring, how it can be recycled and reused, and the importance of recycling and reuse for the environment.

Tips:

Additional resources:

- Use books, images and videos to teach children about the different types of recyclable materials and how they can be recycled.
- Visit a local recycling center so children can see how the recycling process works in real life.
- Invite a recycling professional to talk to children about their work and the importance of recycling for the environment.

Extra Activities:

- Children can draw or paint an awareness poster about the importance of recycling and the benefits of reuse and mindful consumption.
- Children can search for different products made with recycled materials and create a shopping list with these products.
- Children can organise a campaign to collect recyclable materials at school or in the community.
- Children can start a residium recollection campaign to build their own composter.

Additional Considerations:

Differentiation:
Provide additional support or simplified instructions for pupils who may require extra assistance. For advanced pupils, offer extension tasks such as researching further sustainable practices or designing more complex models.

Assessment:
Assess pupils based on their participation and engagement during discussions and hands-on activities. Evaluate the creativity, effort, collaboration, depth of understanding demonstrated in their models, critical thinking, ability to provide constructive feedback and presentation skills.

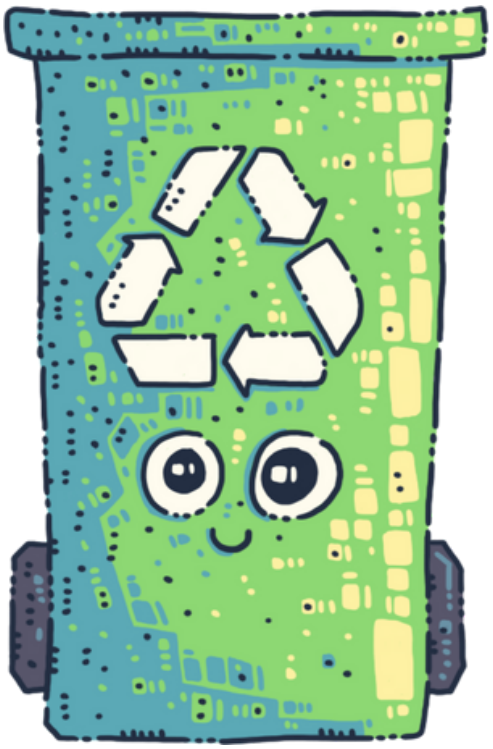
Connection to the curriculum:

This activity integrates:
Environmental Studies (recycling, sustainability, energy preservation, environmental responsibility, and conscious consumption)
Mathematics (geometry, classification and organisation of materials, basic operations in construction tasks)
Art (LEGO-based creative expression; design of posters to raise awareness about recycling and reuse)
Language (oral communication through project presentations; reading and writing informative or creative texts on sustainability)

Note: This activity offers students a hands-on, transdisciplinary approach to learning, allowing them to connect theoretical concepts with real-world applications. By exploring recycling and sustainability through observation, construction, artistic expression, and communication, children not only develop essential academic skills but also foster environmental awareness and responsible citizenship. The integration of Environmental Studies, Mathematics, Art, and Language encourages collaboration, critical thinking, and creativity, empowering students to make informed and sustainable choices in their daily lives.

Connection to the SDGs:

- **SDG 11:** Sustainable Cities and Communities – Ensure that cities and human settlements are inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable.
- **SDG 12:** Sustainable Consumption and Production – Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns.
- **SDG 13:** Climate Action – Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts.
- **SDG 15:** Land Life – Protect, restore and promote the sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss.



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