Make the most of waste

An English language teaching resource about recycling in Auckland
Level 3-4 teacher’s notes
This module uses the Auckland Council publication *Here’s your rubbish and recycling guide* as a text for Level 3-4 English language students to learn about recycling in Auckland. It includes reading, speaking and vocabulary activities. The module has three parts and an optional presentation. The publication is available under ‘Recycling guides’ at [makethemostofwaste.co.nz](http://makethemostofwaste.co.nz) or through the Auckland Council, phone 09 301 0101 and ask to speak to a WasteWise Advisor.

This document has teaching points, links, answers to tasks. It also includes supporting documents - ‘Household items, vocabulary cards’ and ‘Yes please and no thanks’ sorting sheets. Each section is organised in the order of the student document, with page numbers.

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**Teaching points**

1. **Level 3-4 The problem with rubbish**

   **Page 3. Talking points:** Due to the amalgamation that created the current Auckland Council, there are a range of collection systems across the former city council areas. More information is available on the graphic on page 3 of the student module.

   **Page 5. Talking points:** Old clothes can be donated to second hand shops or put in clothing bins; broken electronics and some building materials (e.g. wood) can be taken to a waste transfer station; old car parts can go to a car wreckers. Many things can also be sold on Trade Me or given away through websites like freecycle.org.nz. Although not specifically covered in the module, see page 8 of the Guide for information about the Auckland Council Inorganics Collection.

   **Page 7. Talking points:** Products made from recycled plastic can include buckets, wheelie bins, polar fleece and other polyester fabrics. Products made from recycled paper include newsprint and egg cartons. Products made from recycled glass and metal include glass and metal containers. Glass and metal, especially aluminium, can easily be melted down and remade into like products. Use Google images to show some pictures to students if they are not sure about this.
2. Level 3-4 Zero waste

Page 8. Students will need to be provided with a copy of the Auckland Council booklet *Here’s your rubbish and recycling guide* to complete the exercises in this section.

**Introduction - Reading and Speaking:** Auckland Council uses the following definition of ‘zero waste’ from the Zero Waste International Alliance: Zero waste means designing and managing products and processes to systematically avoid and eliminate the volume and toxicity of waste and materials, conserve and recover all resources, and not burn or bury them.

‘Why zero waste?’ In a world faced with many challenges now and in the future, Auckland Council’s long-term aspirational goal of zero waste is part of a plan to conserve Auckland’s natural resources such as our land, waterways and air quality.

Page 10. **Speaking:** ‘Other waste’ includes all the other waste that can’t currently be recycled or recovered. It includes sanitary waste, hazardous materials like paint, batteries and chemicals, rubble and non-recyclable plastics and paper (e.g. waxed, shiny or tissue paper).

3. Level 3-4 Can it go into the recycling?

Page 11. **Vocabulary and speaking, Packaging:** If students haven’t brought enough packaging items from home, use the pictures from the ‘Household items, vocabulary cards’. This document also includes the labels. For this activity print off the ‘Yes please, no thanks’ you sorting sheets.

Links

1. Level 3-4 The problem with rubbish

For more reading for students see:
- simple.wikipedia.org/wiki/Environment
- simple.wikipedia.org/wiki/Natural_resource

Page 6. **Vocabulary:** For definitions and examples of uses of the word ‘waste’ see learnersdictionary.com/definition/waste

Page 7. **Talking points:** The Youtube video, How plastic bottles are recycled into polyester is one example of many excellent videos on YouTube about the recycling process.

3. Level 3-4 Can it go into the recycling?

Page 15. **Optional task 2:** The ‘Recycling is easy’ flyer can be downloaded and printed from makethemostofwaste.co.nz It is available in English, Chinese, Korean, Māori, Samoan, Tagalog, Tongan and Hindi.
Answers

Page 4. Vocabulary about rubbish and the environment:
1. pollute
2. valuable
3. environment
4. a waste of
5. throw away
6. resources
7. products

Page 6. Vocabulary about looking after the environment:
1. prevents
2. reduce, save
3. protect

Page 8. Zero waste - Vocabulary:
1. c, 2. e, 3. a, 4. f, 5. d, 6. b

Page 9. Zero waste - Reading A:
1. with rates
2. food waste collection, recycling service, rubbish collection
3. food waste collection
4. recycling service
5. payment for rubbish bags across all of Auckland, change from bags to bins
6. no (most urban areas)
7. a few years
8. to reduce waste going to landfill.
Page 9-10. Zero waste - Reading B:

1. 100,000   2. 160   3. 65


Page 12. Recycling - Vocabulary and Reading:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Plastic</th>
<th>Metal</th>
<th>Paper</th>
<th>Cardboard</th>
<th>Glass</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Milk bottle</td>
<td>Drink can</td>
<td>Newspaper</td>
<td>Egg carton</td>
<td>Jam jar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ice-cream container</td>
<td>Tin can</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Mirror</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shampoo bottle</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Wine bottle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Water bottle</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bottle top</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Page 13. Recycling - Vocabulary:

1.d, 2.f, 3.e, 4.g, 5.a, 6.c, 7.b

Page 14. Recycling - Reading:

Pages 16-17. Packaging Vocabulary Homework:

a. Plastic bags
b. Shampoo bottle
c. Egg carton
d. Ice-cream container
e. Milk bottle
f. Tin cans
g. Drink can
h. Polystyrene tray
i. Bottles and jars
j. Newspapers
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ice-cream container</th>
<th>glass bottles and jars</th>
<th>newspaper</th>
<th>bottle tops</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>tin cans</td>
<td>milk and water bottles</td>
<td>drink can</td>
<td>shampoo bottle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>egg cartons</td>
<td>plastic bags</td>
<td>mirror</td>
<td>batteries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>food scraps</td>
<td>light bulb</td>
<td>hazardous waste and chemicals</td>
<td>aerosol can</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>hamburger</td>
<td>disposable nappy</td>
<td>clothes and shoes</td>
<td>polystyrene</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Yes please
Acknowledgments
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