LIFE SKILLS

RESPECTING THE ENVIRONMENT

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Respecting the environment

The environment is the natural world around us. It includes the land, water and air where plants and animals live. People also need the environment to live, so we must work together to protect and care for our natural home.

1 **Ask and answer the questions with a partner.**

1 How often do you use public transport?
2 Does your family recycle at home?
3 Do you like spending time in natural areas?

2 **Read the text quickly. What are the three Rs?**

The 3 Rs are

1 _____

2 _____

3 _____

3 **Complete the sentences with one or two words from the text.**

1 There are many _____ to protect the environment.
2 People need to _____ the natural resources that they are using.
3 It's better to take _____ bags when you go to the supermarket.
4 It takes less _____ to recycle materials than to make new ones.
5 We should throw litter into _____ to keep our nature parks clean.
6 If campers aren't careful when they cook, they can start _____.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Caring for our world

62 **Many countries have programmes to care for the environment, but ordinary people can also help in everyday ways. For example, we can follow the three Rs: reduce, reuse and recycle. We can also care for natural areas and teach others about environmental protection to keep our world clean, beautiful and healthy.**



Reduce, reuse, recycle

The first way to help the environment is to ***reduce*** any resources that you use. For example, you can turn off the water while brushing your teeth, and have a short shower instead of a long one.

Turning off lights and other electrical items when they aren't needed also saves energy. And eating less meat eat can help the environment too - it takes ten times more energy to produce beef compared with vegetables.

Perhaps the biggest change we can make is reducing how much plastic we use. Try to buy food that is not wrapped in plastic and buy a reusable bottle for water instead of buying water in plastic bottles.

We must also ***reuse*** things more often. For example, when we're going to go to the supermarket, we can take reusable bags. If we do that, we won't need plastic bags, which usually end up in the rubbish. Other things can also be reusable, such as batteries. If we use rechargeable batteries, we won't need new ones all the time. We can also sell or give away things that we don't want, like old clothes or books, so other people can reuse them.

The third rule is to ***recycle*** as much as possible. If we recycle paper and cardboard, we won't need to cut down so many trees. Many sorts of plastic, metal and glass are also recyclable. If we recycle those old materials, it will save resources and use less energy than creating new materials. Look out for recycling bins in your neighbourhood and separate materials correctly when you recycle.

Protect and teach



In addition to the three Rs, we need to care for natural spaces, such as parks. We should always throw paper, plastic and other litter into the correct rubbish bins. When we go camping, we mustn't feed any wild animals, such as ducks. We don't want them to follow people around for food. And if we make a fire to cook our food, we must be careful so we don't start any forest fires.

We can also inform other people about the need for environmental protection. We can make presentations at school and collect money for environmental organisations. Finally, we can celebrate special occasions about nature, such as Earth Day on 22nd April.

4 Match the highlighted words in the text to the meanings.

inform	resources	sorts	litter	ordinary

1 types or kinds of things
2 tell people about something
3 paper and other things that people drop in the street
4 normal, not special or unusual
5 things from nature that we can use

LIVEWORKSHEETS

63 **5** **Listen to a podcast about an environmental campaign. What are the two main problems in the park?**

The two main problems are

1 people _____

2 people _____

63 **6** **Listen again. Are the sentences true or false?**

1 Hannah works for an organisation that protects the environment.
2 The students have finished making their video.
3 Lots of young people go hiking in the nature park.
4 Some people are burning the trees in the park.
5 The main characters of the film are superheroes.
6 They're only going to show the film at school.

7 **Complete the *Useful language* phrases with the words in the box.**

could else idea possible sure think

USEFUL LANGUAGE

Brainstorming ideas

1 I think we _____ make a poster.
2 What do you _____ we should do?
3 Do you think that's _____?
4 I'm not _____ about that.
5 What _____ can we do?
6 That's a great _____.

PROJECT

An environmental campaign

Work in groups. Brainstorm ideas for an environmental campaign and then make a presentation or video. Use the questions below to help you think.

- What environmental topics interest you?
- Are there any environmental issues in your area?
- Do the people in your area recycle enough?
- What sorts of campaign would be fun to do?
- Are you good at taking photos or making videos?
- Could you create a computer presentation?

Share your presentation or video with the class. Then vote on the best idea.

LIVEWORKSHEETS