



Planet-friendly shopping

Can you think of good shopping habits to help the planet? We asked three people for ideas.



Idea 1 – Hasan, Turkey

I live in a seaside town where my parents run a popular kitesurf school. When kite sails are old, we don't throw them away. We keep them because we had a simple, planet-friendly idea. I recycle the old sails and make them into backpacks which are light, bright and stronger than normal bags. I sell them at the kitesurf school and online. I sometimes make different sizes or styles, but that's usually a bit more expensive. My customers love my backpacks, and they're better for the environment.



Idea 2 – Natalia, Spain

I stopped using plastic bottles last year. I found my metal water bottle on special offer at a local supermarket. Now I use it for my lunchtime drink every day. It's kinder to the environment than plastic bottles. It looks nicer too! My friends liked it and bought their own. Now we all share our small ideas. We usually take cloth bags when we go shopping, so we don't buy fruit and vegetables wrapped in plastic. Sometimes the smallest ideas can be the most important.



Idea 3 – Tomasz, Poland

A few years ago, our family decided to stop buying plastic things. Now we give presents that are more interesting and personal.

So, on Mum's birthday I gave her a box of chocolates that I made myself. They weren't as good as chocolates from a supermarket, but Mum was happier with them! For my brother's birthday I'm buying old books from second-hand charity shops. They're cheaper than new ones, so you get more for the same price. And of course, we're going to go out for a meal. It's more important to have fun together than to have things!

- How often do you buy clothes? Do you ever buy used clothes or sell old clothes? Why?/Why not?
- 7.9 Read the article and match ideas 1–3 with photos A–C. Which idea do you think is best?
- Read the article again. Match people 1–3 with questions a–f. Each person can match with more than one question.
Which person ...
 a ☐ believes big ideas aren't always the best?
 b ☐ made a homemade present?
 c ☐ started to use something different?
 d ☐ keeps and reuses old things in a new way?
 e ☐ thinks family time is better than buying things?
 f ☐ makes money from helping the world?
- 7.10 Study the Vocabulary box. In pairs, find the words in the article. Check you understand them.

VOCABULARY Eco-friendly shopping

charity shop cloth bag customer environment
planet-friendly price recycle special offer

- Match words from the Vocabulary box with the definitions.
 1 A person who buys something. *customer*
 2 You can reuse this to put your shopping in.
 3 To reuse something to help the environment.
 4 The amount of money you pay for something.
 5 A cheaper price than the usual price.
 6 The natural world.

- In groups, discuss the questions.

- Can you suggest three ideas for planet-friendly presents?
- Which idea is the best? Why?

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