

# Recycling

## What Is Recycling?

Recycling is when things that are no longer wanted (like rubbish) are reused to make new things.

## Which Materials Can Be Recycled?

Paper, plastic, glass, metal, fabric, electronics (like computers and smart phones) and even food can be recycled.

## How Can We Recycle?

Most homes have bins so that we can recycle our own rubbish. Rubbish can also be taken to public places called recycling banks.



## How Is Rubbish Recycled?

First, the rubbish is taken from the bins by big trucks. The rubbish is then sorted and taken away to be made into something new.

**Glass, metal and plastic** are recycled by melting them. They are then made into new things, such as glass jars and plastic bottles.

**Paper** is washed, mixed, rolled out really thin, and left to dry.



This symbol is the recycling symbol. It is used all around the world.

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# Questions

1. What is recycling? Tick one.

- when things are reused to make new things
- when you ride your bicycle
- when you return things to a shop

2. Where can you put your rubbish to be recycled? Tick one.

- in the ocean
- in a recycling bin
- in the forest

3. Which material is melted to make a new object? Tick one.

- wood
- paper
- glass

4. What happens to the rubbish after the trucks have taken it away? Tick one.

- it is sorted and made into something new
- it is burned
- it is all mixed together

5. How is paper recycled? Tick one.

- it is melted
- it is washed, mixed, rolled out and left to dry
- it is folded up

# Answers

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# Recycling

## What Is Recycling?

Recycling is when things that are no longer wanted (like rubbish) are reused to make new things. Recycling helps the world by causing less pollution and protecting the homes of wild animals. It also saves energy.

## Which Materials Can Be Recycled?

Paper, plastic, glass, metal, fabric, electronics (such as computers and smart phones) and even food can be recycled.



## How Can We Recycle?

Most homes have recycling bins so that we can recycle our own rubbish, such as drinks bottles and cereal boxes. The rubbish can also be taken to recycling banks, such as those found at the supermarket or at local recycling centres.

## How Are Things Recycled?

Large trucks will usually take away the rubbish from the recycling bins. The rubbish is then sorted (either on the truck or at a sorting facility) and taken to factories to be made into something new.

## Glass, Metal and Plastic

Glass, metal and plastic are washed and then broken down into small pieces. The pieces are then melted and made into new things, such as glass jars and plastic bottles.

## Paper

Paper is recycled by cleaning it in soapy water. Any ink is washed off and the wet paper is mixed and rolled out really thin. It is then left to dry.



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# Questions

1. What is recycling? Tick one.

- when things are reused to make new things
- when you ride your bicycle
- when you return things to a shop

2. How are glass, metal and plastic recycled? Tick one.

- They are washed and melted.
- They are thrown away.
- They are mixed and rolled out really thin and left to dry.

3. Name three materials that can be recycled.

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

4. Draw a line to match up the boxes to complete the sentences.

Large trucks will usually

recycling banks.

Paper is recycled by

take away the rubbish.

The rubbish can also be taken to

cleaning it in soapy water.

5. Complete this sentence.

This symbol is the recycling symbol. It is used all around the

\_\_\_\_\_.

country

town

world

# Answers

1. What is recycling? Tick one.

- when things are reused to make new things**
- when you ride your bicycle
- when you return things to a shop

2. How are glass, metal and plastic recycled? Tick one.

- They are washed and melted.**
- They are thrown away.
- They are mixed and rolled out really thin and left to dry.

3. Name three materials that can be recycled.

**Any three from: paper, plastic, glass, metal, fabric, electronics and food.**

4. Draw a line to match up the boxes to complete the sentences.

|                                  |   |   |                             |
|----------------------------------|---|---|-----------------------------|
| Large trucks will usually        | ● | ● | recycling banks.            |
| Paper is recycled by             | ● | ● | take away the rubbish.      |
| The rubbish can also be taken to | ● | ● | cleaning it in soapy water. |

5. Complete this sentence.

This symbol is the recycling symbol. It is used all around the **world**.

# Recycling

## What Is Recycling?

Recycling is when unwanted waste (such as rubbish) is turned into something new. Recycling makes sure that useful materials aren't thrown away. When rubbish isn't recycled, it goes to a place called a landfill site. Here, it rots and breaks down and can produce a dangerous gas which pollutes our air. Recycling reduces the amount of rubbish ending up in landfill sites and so, helps to reduce pollution. It also helps to protect the habitats of wild animals (such as forests and seas) and saves energy.

## Which Materials Can Be Recycled?

Many different materials can be recycled. These include paper, plastic, glass, metal, textiles, electronics and even food waste.

## How Can We Recycle?

We can recycle in different ways. Most homes have separate bins so that we can recycle our own waste, such as plastic drinks bottles and cardboard cereal boxes.

Recyclable materials can also be taken to recycling banks, such as those found at the local supermarket or at local recycling centres.



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## How Are Materials Recycled?

The recyclable materials end up at a Materials Recovery Facility (MRF). It is then sorted and baled up, and transported to factories so it can be made into new products.

### Glass

Glass is sorted into different colours. The glass is then washed and crushed. The crushed pieces are then melted down and put into moulds to make new objects, such as bottles and jars. Glass can be recycled over and over again because it does not lose any of its quality.



### Metal

Metal objects are separated from other recyclable materials by giant magnets. Metal is shredded and then melted down to be made into new objects, such as drinks cans and food trays. Metal can also be recycled over and over again.

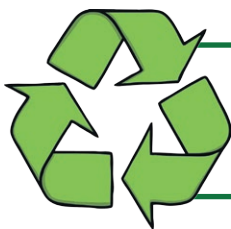
### Plastic

Plastic is shredded into little strips and melted down to produce new products, such as drinks bottles. Not all plastics can be recycled.



### Paper

Paper is mixed together and cleaned in soapy water. Any ink is washed off and the wet paper is rolled out really thin and left to dry. Different types of paper and card can be made by adding different chemicals to the wet paper.



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# Questions

1. What happens when rubbish rots in landfill sites? Tick one.

- it helps the environment
- it produces a dangerous gas
- it saves energy

2. List three reasons recycling is good for our planet.

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

3. Draw a line to match each word with its meaning.

unwanted ●

reduce ●

transport ●

● no longer wanted

● move something from one place to another

● make smaller or less in amount

4. Find a word in the text that means the same as **torn**.

\_\_\_\_\_

5. Describe two processes involved in recycling glass.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

6. Why do you think recycling helps to protect the habitats of wild animals?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

# Answers

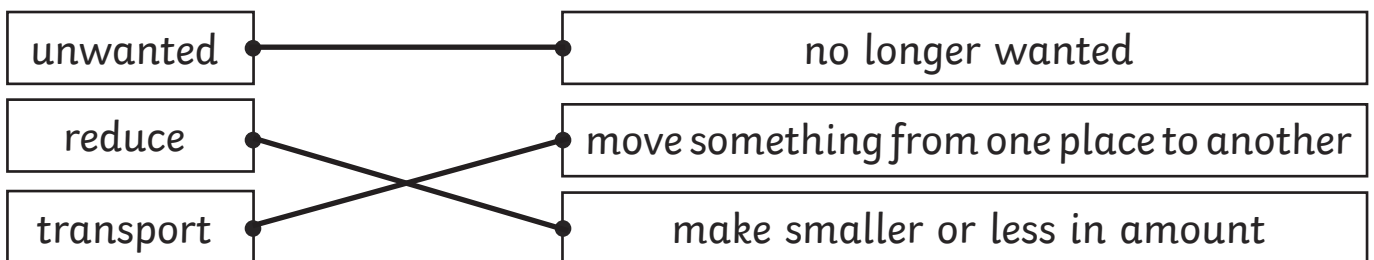
1. What happens when rubbish rots in landfill sites? Tick one.

- it helps the environment
- it produces a dangerous gas**
- it saves energy

2. List three reasons recycling is good for our planet.

**Recycling reduces the amount of rubbish ending up in landfill sites/ reduces pollution, protects the habitats of wild animals, and saves energy.**

3. Draw a line to match each word with its meaning.



4. Find a word in the text that means the same as **torn**.

**shredded**

5. Describe two processes involved in recycling glass.

**Accept any two of the following: Glass is sorted into different colours; The glass is then washed and crushed; The crushed pieces are then melted down and put into moulds to make new objects.**

6. Why do you think recycling helps to protect the habitats of wild animals?

**Various answers that focus on litter and its impact on animals and their habitats.**