

Recycling Lesson Plan- Reclaiming and Replacing

Driving question– What happens to garbage when it leaves the school or my house?

Lesson- Students will collect household trash for analysis and build model landfills in order to understand the processes and impacts of solid waste management. They should consider the following questions:

- What is going into landfills?
- What kind of barriers are at modern landfills to prevent chemical leaching?
- What happens when a landfill is filled to capacity?
- Are the laws the same in all states?

Student teams are to consider what might be done when a local landfill is filled to capacity and propose how the land may be reclaimed for future use. Teams will also design a landfill to take the place of the current landfill. They must determine where to put it and explain the reason for choosing that location. How will they prevent chemicals leaching into the environment? They may use models, drawings, or multi-media presentations to share their ideas with the class and explain the reasons for the choices they make in both design plans.

http://www.teachengineering.org/view_lesson.php?url=http://www.teachengineering.org/collection/cub_/lessons/cub_environ/cub_environ_lesson04.xml

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Informational Text- As part of their presentations, students should be prepared with an, “If you want to learn more...” recommended reading for their peers, which includes the book or article and the name of the newspaper or magazine, author, a quick summary, and the ISBN.

