

Alternative activities and add on programs to recycling:

Air pollution monitoring: (15 minutes)

Vaseline or contact paper applied to a piece of paper or cardboard, in classroom or at home. Students can examine particles visually and/or with a microscope. Place strip outside for maximum effect.

Worm farm & compost bins (45 minutes)

Worm farm can be created and cared for in bins (good idea to take to schools). Create a compost bin at the farm, small scale. In this activity students will learn about the different materials put into a compost bin and the “recipe” for a perfect compost pile.

Record keeping: (15 minutes)

Pass out a records sheet of different materials and have kids write down everything they remember throwing away or recycling that day. Students can take the sheet with them and continue to record throughout the week.

Recycling this & that: (15 minutes)

Students can record the recyclability of the shampoo bottles etc. in what they packed for school/camp, and what the number on the item means, and if it can be recycled in their area.

Solar cook out: (45 minutes to 1 hour 15 minutes)

Smaller groups can build a simple solar oven with facilitator and cook something simple, like veggies. If a cardboard solar oven is being built, make sure to encourage students to build with used cardboard, and to reuse the tin foil.

Building with salvaged wood: (45 minutes to 1 hour 15 minutes)

Groups can opt to build something with facilitator. Something simple like a raised garden box that individual groups can do, to something that takes more time like a bench made from salvaged materials, or detailed wood garden boxes. Materials needed would be nails, hammers, brackets, wood. Safety rules must be gone over and understood before starting: proper handling of tools, awareness of surroundings (make sure we are not bumping or elbowing classmates), etc.