

June 14, 2017

Greetings Teachers,

ecomaine's new waste-sorting game, "Wicked Smaht Recycler," is a free tool you are invited to use in your classrooms, or as an extension of active learning at home.

To play, download the ecomaine RECYCLOPEDIA from the [Apple](#) or [Android](#) stores on your mobile device, or access it from [ecomaine's website](#) and press "Play Now!" You'll then be prompted to drag items into the correct waste stream (Transfer Station, Recycling, Yard Waste, Food Waste/Backyard Compost, Trash, Resale or Re-use shop).

Thirty total items will appear over each of the five rounds. Unlimited chances are granted and as a wrong answer is guessed, that option is removed for easier choosing. At the end of each round, students get to choose a reward to build a virtual park and can then move to the next round.

The Wicked Smaht Recycler game can be integrated into curriculum in numerous ways, including:

1. **Making new things from old**-Recycling not only saves resources, but also helps make new and wonderful products! Have the students explore some items in their everyday lives to see what is recyclable or made of recycled materials.
2. **Science** – Study the science behind what their everyday items are made of and where they come from (ex. Plastic from petroleum refined from oil under ground, metals mined from the earth and what steps it takes to make them into cans, where paper comes from and how it goes from tree to cardboard box.
3. **Art** – Maybe your school needs some colorful recycling posters to help students know what goes where. Or you can [make paper from paper!](#)
4. **Math** – Do a waste audit (see <http://www.ecomaine.org/tours-and-educational-outreach/educational-activities-resources/> for more details on this!). You can calculate how much trash your school creates daily to figure out how much could be diverted to recycling, food waste, or even reused!
5. **Custom!** Contact ecomaine's environmental educator, Katrina Venhuizen,, to set up something specific for you and your students. She can be reached at Venhuizen@ecomaine.org

Integrate Wicked Smart Recycler Game into your Curriculum

PROMOTE ACTIVE LEARNING WITH THESE THESE EXTENSIONS FOR YOUR STUDENTS AND BEYOND

Do some math!

Have students tally up items they get correct and use this to do math problems at the end of each round. Students will learn what they can and can't recycle, even if their choice is incorrect!

Do some art!

Does your school already have recycling signs on all bins? If not, employ your students to create some artistic and eye-catching signage to help students recycle their paper, cardboard, plastic, metal and glass items!

Bring it home!

Now that you are a recycling expert, bring this game home to your family, friends and neighbors. Teach them how to navigate the recycling process and inspire a new set of Wicked Smart Recyclers!

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