

Environmental Education is critical to the success of our children as well as to that of the Johnson County Recycling District's waste reduction and recycling efforts. The JCRD has developed fun, interactive programs that are available to teachers, schools, and community groups in Johnson County. School programs correlate to Indiana State Science Standards (for specific standard information, please contact the education coordinator). To schedule your program, simply contact our Education & Outreach Coordinator, Kea Deppe, at educator@recyclejc.com or (317) 738-2546.

Schools are asked to limit program requests to 3 per grade level per school year.

Certain programs are available for check-out. After attending a short training session, teachers may check-out and return lesson kits. Again, contact the Education and Outreach Coordinator for more information.



Explore the benefits and fun of creatively keeping materials from our landfills! Through reuse, everyday items can be transformed into unique and educational projects.

If you have an idea or an activity that you would like to do with your class, let us know! We have several older programs still available for use too. Even if you don't see it on here, we can create something together.



Environmental Education Program Guide 2018-2019

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THE THREE R'S (K-3) Students learn the importance and concept behind the Reduce, Reuse, Recycle message, using fun and educational examples and demonstrations. Can be incorporated with classroom reading or story time. (30 min.)

MUSICAL TRASH (K-5) A totally fun and educational spin on musical chairs! Each student becomes a type of trash on it's way to a final destination. Once "out" of the game, they have to decide if they can be recycled, reused, or bound for the landfill. (45 min.)

SQUIRMY WORMY VERMICOMPOSTING (K-6) Worms eat our garbage! Through this totally interactive program, students learn the importance of worms to composting and using magnifiers, they can examine these decomposers and find out exactly how worms squirm! (45 min.)

EARTH COOKIE [An Edible Activity](#) (K-2) Students learn about the limited amount of farmland available on Earth and how their personal decisions and actions can protect remaining farmland. Students will eat a "piece of the earth" when the project is complete. (45 min.)

WHAT CAN A TREE BE? (K-5) You will be amazed at just how many consumer goods are actually made from trees. Students will imagine what life would be like without trees. Your class will learn how trees provide us and wildlife with many benefits, and that the easiest way to protect forests is by reducing, reusing, and recycling. (45 min.)

THE STORY OF SNOW (3-6) Students will learn how snow is made, why it's important to the Earth, and the problems melting and thawing can cause. Students will then mimic nature's process of making snow using a very surprising material. Great for the winter months. (30-45 min)

EARTH QUEST (3-8) Students will learn how our waste leaves a footprint on Earth. Using a story and eco-challenge game, students will learn easy solutions to reducing their impact on the environment. (30 min.)

WALL PAPER/FOOD BOX JOURNALS (3-8) Does your class need a cool way to record information or keep track of data? This is the craft for you! Using wallpaper samples, food boxes, and scrap paper bound for the recycling bin, students will create unique journals that can be used throughout the year to record data, write stories, or draw sketches. (45 min.)

BIRD NEST HELPERS (3-8) Students are educated on the impact our waste has on wildlife. The class will then learn how to make a bird nest helper — an upcycled mesh produce bag filled with organic material. It can be hung outside allowing students to observe the birds that gather the material for their nests. (45 min.)

LANDFILL COOKIE [An Edible Activity](#) (3-7) What goes into our landfills each day? Students become garbologists to fill a "landfill" cookie with edible "trash". This edible activity develops an awareness of the final destination of the waste stream and emphasizes the importance of wise personal decisions. (45 min)

WHO POLLUTED THE RIVER? (3-8) Through an interactive story, students experience the pollution of a river over time due to rain runoff, personal decisions, and industrial growth. They then propose methods to clean up and protect the river from current and future pollution. (30 min.)

ENVIRO-SURVIVOR (5-8) Students out-reduce, out-reuse, and out-recycle using mental and physical environmental challenges related to caring for their "island paradise". *Eco-friendly prizes awarded. (2-4 hr.) This program can also be done in an **Enviro-Jeopardy** format if time constraints are a consideration. (45 min.)

E-WASTE EDUCATION (7-10) Students will learn the issues and problems surrounding the process of e-waste disposal and brainstorm various solutions. Lesson includes a few video components along with some team/class discussion and culminates in a cool upcycle project each student will take home. (45 min.-1 hr.)