

Linear vs. Circular Systems Worksheet

Use this worksheet to accompany the "Recology for Kids" presentation, which explains the difference between linear and circular systems and how materials flow through each system.

Check Your Understanding – Natural Resources

- a. What is a natural resource?
- b. What are three natural resources you use every day?
- c. How do plants and animals use natural resources to survive?
- d. Do we have unlimited natural resources?

Review the Life Cycle – Sending Paper to Landfill

Put the following steps in order to describe the lifecycle of paper sent to the landfill. Start by writing the number "1" next to the step you think is first. Some important questions to consider might be: what natural resource(s) were used while making paper? Where did the paper end up? How does it travel from place to place?

- _____ A large truck is loaded with garbage and drives to the landfill.
- _____ Trees are brought to a paper mill and processed.
- _____ Trees are cut down for raw material.
- _____ Paper is used and then placed in the black or grey landfill bin.
- _____ Paper is delivered to a school or office.
- _____ The landfill bin is rolled to the curb and picked up by a Recology truck.
- _____ Paper and other items placed in the landfill bin stay in the landfill forever.
- _____ Recology trucks dump what they collected into the pit, where nothing is sorted.



Describe a Landfill

Use words or a drawing to describe what you think it would be like to visit a landfill. How might it make you feel? What would you see, smell, and hear there?

Recycling and Reusing Our Paper

Describe what happens when you place your paper in the blue recycling bin instead of the landfill. Then, draw one other way **besides recycling** that would prevent paper from ending up in the landfill.

Check Your Understanding – Recycling

a. How does recycling save natural resources?

b. Why does the landfill system look like a line, and the recycling system a circle?



Draw a Life Story – Composting Our Food Scraps

Draw what happens when you place your food scraps in the green compost bin. Be sure to think about how this process is different than if you placed them in the landfill or recycling bin.

What is Special About Compost? Create an Announcement!

Use this space to write a slogan, draw a poster, create a meme, or design an announcement to creatively tell your peers what is special, different, and/or exciting about compost.

Reduce, Reuse, Refuse

Write an example of how you can do each of the following in your own life:

- <u>Reduce:</u>
- <u>Reuse:</u>
- <u>Refuse:</u>