

## Close the Loop

# Lesson 1: What Am I Made Of?

**Grade Level:**

K-2

**Concepts Taught:**

Recycling, sorting/grouping/  
matching objects

**Activity Time(s):**

20 minutes (lesson), 10 minutes  
(follow-up)

**Essential Questions:**

- What new items are made from recycling paper, plastic, and soda cans?

**NC CORE/Essential Standards:**

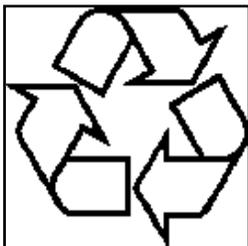
**Kindergarten:** Reading: Foundational Skills 1—3; Speaking/Listening 1, 6; Math K.MD.3; Science K.P.2.1; Soc Std K.G.2.2;

**Grade 1:** Science 1.L.1.3; Soc Std 1.G.2.1; Speaking/Listening Std 1; Math 1.G.1;

**Grade 2:** Speaking/Listening Std 1, 3, 6; Soc Std 2.G.2.1, 2.G.2.2;

**Materials:**

Recycled content products (cereal boxes, soda cans, etc.)  
NEED Project book: "All About Trash" (optional. Download online at <http://www.need.org/primary>)

**Objectives:**

- Students will recognize that recycled materials are made into new things.
- Students will match recycled content items to the recyclable materials they are made from

**Procedure:**

When we recycle materials, they are used again to be made into new products. Use the NEED Project book "[All About Trash](#)" to discuss with students how items we recycle are used to make new things.

1. Show the students recycled content products along with the materials used to make them. For example, explain that recycled cereal boxes are made from old boxes and paper that people have recycled, showing the three-arrow recycling logo and message that says that the box is made from recycled materials.

Repeat for the other items that can be found easily at home or school:

- Bathroom tissue made from recycled paper
- Cracker or cake boxes made from recycled paper/  
chipboard
- Sticky notes made from recycled paper
- Pencils made from recycled paper
- Fleece made from recycled plastic bottles
- Steel food cans made from recycled steel

2. Continue to show the items to the students, allowing them to pass the items around to find the three-arrow recycling symbol. Include some items that do not have the symbol and allow students to discuss how that product could possibly be made from recycled materials.

3. Use the matching worksheet for students to independently match an item that can be recycled to its final recycled-content product. The sheets may be laminated and marked on with crayon and wiped clean with tissues or other soft paper such as scraps of construction paper and reused. Students may exchange cards and check each other's answers.

## Lesson 1: What Am I Made Of? Continued...

### Extensions/Modifications:

Students can participate in a scavenger hunt to look for items that contain recycled content.

Students can look at home, school, stores, or in catalogs for items that have the three-arrow recycling symbol or labels that indicate the product is made from recycled content.

They can collect items from home and bring them in or make a list of the things they found, or cut out pictures of the symbol or label. Students can exchange items or lists, and discuss how the items could be used at home or school.

# Close the Loop

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## What Am I Made Of?

Draw a line from the pictures on the left to what it is made of on the right.



**Classroom Bin**



**Soda Can**



**Pencil**



**Toilet Paper**



**Rulers**



**Newspaper**



**Foil**



**Aluminum Can**



**Paper**



**Plastic Bottle**

# Close the Loop

Name ANSWER KEY

## What Am I Made Of?

Draw a line from the pictures on the left to what it is made of on the right.

