

REDUCE, REUSE, RECYCLE

Tom's Fun Band

Grades: K-5

ABOUT THE PERFORMANCE:

Tom's Fun Band uses music and comedy to make learning about preserving our natural resources fun and thought provoking. Participants will learn how to reduce the amount we waste by making small changes everyday. Reusing things is made fun when participants are challenged to use their imaginations to repurpose found objects. Finally, recycling will be explained and practiced in a musically interactive way. Your students will chant, clap and sing along with this popular band as they learn more about their role in conservation.

TEKS (Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills):

	Music	Science	Lang. Arts	Math	Social Studies	<p>The Students Will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Demonstrate musical artistry by singing songs in groups and moving to the music. * Demonstrate appropriate concert etiquette during live performances. * Make informed choices. Identify and demonstrate how to use, conserve, and dispose of natural resources such as conserving water and reusing or recycling paper, aluminum, class and plastic. * Write stories that express their ideas and feelings about real or imagined people, events, and ideas. * Collect, organize, record and display data in charts and bar graphs. * Give examples and explain how individuals can participate in civic affairs and how the actions of individuals and groups can improve the community.
K	K.2,K.4	K.2	K.14	K.8	K16.A	
1	1.3, 1.6	1.1	1.18	1.8	1.13	
2	2.3, 2.6	2.1	2.18	2.10	2.13	
3	3.3, 3.6	3.1	3.18	3.13	3.12	
4	4.3, 4.6	4.1	4.16	4.13	4.17	
5	5.3, 5.6	5.1	5.16	5.13	5.18	

STAAR (State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness):

Writing	Grade 4	Reporting Category 1	<p>The Students Will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Demonstrate an ability to compose a variety of written texts with a clear, central idea; coherent organization; sufficient development; and effective use of language and conventions. * Make informed choices in the conservation, disposal, and recycling of materials. * Demonstrate an understanding of probability and statistics.
Science	Grade 5	Scientific Investigation and Reasoning Skills	
Math	Grades 3, 4, 5	Reporting Category 5	

Academic Vocabulary:

Environment	The place we live in. Not just our house but our town, our country, the rivers, the mountains, the valleys, the forests and the oceans. It is Mother Earth!
Waste	Anything that we do not want that we throw away.
Recycling	Changing waste into a new and useable product. Separating our recyclable materials, such as paper, metal, glass and plastic, from other trash and helping to turn them into new products instead of just throwing them away. Recycling means do not throw recyclable material in the garbage but use the old or useless things to make new and useful things.
Reduce	Lowering the amount of waste produced by a person or by a whole society. This means you reduce the amount of things you use so that you will have less to throw away, thus less to reuse and less to recycle. For example, if you use both sides of a paper, you are reducing the number of pages you need.
Reuse	Using a product more than once; use things again and again. This means you use the materials over again, either for the same purpose, or for something else. For example a coffee-can could be reused as a container for nails. We can reuse waste by finding other uses for items we normally throw away.
Biodegrade	To decay naturally and in a way that is not harmful; to be decomposed by bacteria or other living organisms.
Disposable	A thing designed to be thrown away after using it.

CLASSROOM CONNECTIONS:

Before the performance:

- * Brainstorm ideas about garbage and recycling and record your ideas on a board or chart paper.

After the performance:

- * Make a list of what you could try to reuse and recycle at home.
- * Think of all the ways that you could create less trash.
- * Brainstorm all of the ways in which you could save water.

Language Arts:

- Write and record a radio or television commercial to teach and promote recycling to your classmates.
- Create a skit highlighting what you have learned about taking action to conserve the earth's resources. Perform the skit for your class.
- Write a creative story about a machine that you invent to help the earth.
- Write a letter to your parents, grandparents, friend, neighbor or other relative. Share what you have learned about recycling and why it is important for everyone to play a role and do his or her part.
- Create a recycling brochure that is creative, colorful, and that includes the following:

- ✓ What recycling is and why we need to do it
- ✓ What can/cannot be recycled and how long each product/waste takes to biodegrade
- ✓ Local recycling programs
- ✓ What we can personally do to help

Math:

- Copy the chart below. Record how many disposable beverage containers you use in a day and in a week.

“How Many Disposable Beverage Containers I Use”

Drink Container	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6	Day 7	Totals
Glass								
Plastic								
Aluminum								
Grand Total: _____								
Estimated Usage For : 1 month (4 weeks) _____								
6 months (24 weeks) _____								
12 months (52 weeks) _____								

Use your data from your chart to create bar graphs that show how many containers of each kind you used in one week. When you look at your results, what kinds of conclusions can you draw about your personal usage? Are there any changes you would like to make? Discuss.

- Create word problems about how long each item in the chart below will last in a landfill. Exchange problems with a partner and solve each other's problems.

A banana skin – 1 week	A cigarette butt – until 2022	Plastic bags – until 3000
A paper bag – 1 month	A nylon jacket or leather shoes – until 2050	A plastic jug – until the year 1000000 (yes – one million!)
Cotton or orange peel – 6 months	A tin can – until 2060	A glass bottle – until the year 1500000
An old woolen sock – 1 year	An aluminum can – until 2100	A styrofoam cup – forever!
A milk carton – until 2018	Disposable diapers – until 2500	(But all these are recyclable – even the banana skin!!)

- Conduct a Survey - Brainstorm a list of questions to ask others about recycling. Write your questions on a survey form and give it to students, teachers, neighbors, friends, relatives. Collect the survey forms. List the questions on the board and compile the results. Develop percentages for each response. Draw conclusions from your data and discuss in small groups.

Question Suggestions:

- ✓ Do you know the meaning of the term recycle?
- ✓ Do you recycle? Why or why not?
- ✓ Do you think you should recycle?
- ✓ What materials do you recycle?
- ✓ How do you recycle?
- ✓ Where do you recycle?
- ✓ Do you get paid for recycled materials?

Social Studies:

- You were elected to be the new Mayor of Houston. What kinds of things can you do to help citizens reduce, reuse, and recycle? Make a "TV commercial" where you talk about your ideas.
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- Changing Times - Interview an older person to compare products, consumer habits and recycling practices in the past with the present day. With a partner, brainstorm to come up with a series of questions you can use for the interview. Create charts and do a class presentation based on what you learned.
- Create a Green Team in your classroom to promote the concept that recycling, reducing, and reusing is important to our planet. With your teacher's approval, plan a project for your class.
- Look in the newspaper for news, advertising, feature articles and editorials that pertain to waste management or to the environment. Share the information that you read about with the class.

Science:

- Work in small groups to name three ways that each of these items can be reused, instead of throwing them away. (You can use the whole thing or only part of it.)
 - Cardboard box
 - Plastic milk carton
 - Glass jar
 - Wooden board
 - Plastic bag

- Newspaper

- With a partner, create a divided poster board. Your poster will be related to the ideas of Reduce, Reuse, Recycle. Label the left side: “World Environment Today – The World as We See It”, and label the right side: “Environment of the Future –The World as We Would Like It to Be”. Cut out images from magazines and newspapers to create your poster. Present your poster to the class.
- Create an Earth Day in your classroom. Design a list of things that you and your classmates can do to help conserve our planet. In small groups, create an Earth Day board game with your ideas.
- Discuss how the following items might be reused:
 - Gift wrapping paper
 - Paper lunch bags
 - A toy
 - An empty peanut butter jar
 - A cardboard box
 - A plastic milk jug
 - A detergent bottle
 - An empty plastic soda bottle

Generate more examples of how you can reuse varied items.

- Create a “Recycling Quiz Bowl” in which you compete in teams to answer questions about recycling and the environment.

Resources:

Related Websites:

<http://pbskids.org/eeeworld/>

<http://teacher.scholastic.com/lessonplans/recycling/lesson1.htm#>

<http://www.scholastic.com/teachers/unit/recycling-everything-you-need>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G1yBQv1hLRY>

<http://www.galvbay.org/rainbarrel/>

<http://globalatlas.irena.org/>

<http://www.sierraclub.org/>

<http://www.treepeople.org/environmental-education-programs>

Related Smartboard and Interactive Sites

<http://www.epa.gov/recyclecity/mainmap.htm>

<http://exchange.smarttech.com/search.html?q=%22recycle%22>



CURRICULUM CONNECTIONS GUIDE

Tom's Fun Band

Performance

ABOUT THE ARTIST:

Tom's Fun Band was born in the summer of 2007. Tom Wilbeck, Will Samson, and Chris Wilbeck have teamed up to bring fun music to children of all ages. They fuse music education with great life lessons that kids love and parents appreciate. The group's founder, Tom Wilbeck, started this project for his own children and now, after playing for thousands of children, is more excited than ever about the power of positive music for youngsters. You can now see Tom's Fun Band at festivals, schools, libraries, fundraisers, parties, museums and anywhere positive family music is needed!