

Repak School Activity Sheet

Day	Activity
Monday Repak Recycling Quiz	Log onto www.recyclenore.ie to download the Repak Recycling Quiz. Divide the class into teams, allocating one pupil as the team captain. The team with the highest score after 20 questions wins. We at Repak feel that as the champions the winning team should get no homework as their prize!
Tuesday Make & Do Day	Students bring in used packaging such as egg and milk cartons and use these to make things such as bird feeders, flower pots, stationery holders.
Wednesday Repak Member Hunt	Pupils go out into the local community to find as many Repak members as possible, such as shops, restaurants and hotels. These can be found by locating the Repak sticker on the door or window to their premises.
Thursday Music Day	Students can make up a song about recycling and perform it with recycled instruments such as yoghurt pots for drums, shakers made from old cans with pebbles and elastic band guitars.
Friday House Hunt	Download the Repak House Hunt and make a list of all the items you can recycle from around the house and what type of material they are.

Other Suggestions

» **Lasting Litter Quiz** Download the lasting litter quiz from www.recyclenore.ie and test your knowledge of how long it can take for various types of litter to degrade if it's not recycled.

» **Alternative uses for newspaper challenge** Divide the class into teams, allocating one pupil as the team captain. Each team gets a newspaper and has to think of as many alternative uses for it as they can. For example confetti, rain hat, fan. We at Repak feel that as the champions the winning team should get no homework as their prize!

» **Producer Responsibility versus Polluter pays** Take a day to talk about the difference between producer responsibility and polluter pays. 'Polluter pays' is based around the idea that those who produce waste such as householders and businesses also pay for its disposal.

'Producer pays' is based around the idea where those who manufacture or make products are responsible for paying towards its recycling or disposal. Producer responsibility in Ireland covers packaging (Repak), WEEE, batteries etc. Talk about how it works and the differences between the two. Visit www.recyclenore.ie to learn more about packaging recycling and WEEE Ireland to learn about electronic recycling. Maybe arrange a talk from a local waste contractor or EAO officer?

» **Litter free day** Organise a litter free day where pupils nominate a class representative to take responsibility for cleaning up the school yard and emptying street bins. As part of the day visit or download the national litter survey and facts about litter on www.litter.ie and talk about the different types of litter, where it arises from and how it got there. Maybe do your own school or community litter survey and compare it to the national survey and talk about the difference? Talk about litter control in your area such as litter wardens, street cleaning (who does it), location and types of bins, and what we can do to prevent litter.

» **Recycling Day** Discuss the different recycling or reuse facilities in your local community. Can you locate and count the following in your area:

1. Recycling Centres
2. Bottle or bring banks and what materials they accept; glass, cans, clothes.
3. Re-use shops
4. Re-use websites such as Buy and Sell, Free Trade, eBay

Household recycling collection bins (name the different contractors in the area and what they accept in each of the different green bins). Maybe do a competition between two groups to name the most items that can go in your green bin.

What materials are accepted in each of the different recycling outlets/receptacles. Visit www.recyclenore.ie to find a list of recycling centres and bring banks in your area. Look up goldenpages.ie for second hand clothes shops like 'The Life Boat' shop.

» **Recycle around the house** Ask pupils to name the different used packaging items that arise in different areas of the house from rooms like the kitchen, bathroom, bedroom, home office or study and living room.

Visit www.recyclenore.ie to learn more about recycling around the house.

» **Packaging Day** Name all the different types of packaging materials you encounter during your normal day. What would happen if there was no packaging; how would you get your milk, cornflakes, bread, tea, meat, butter? What is the role and function of packaging? See www.incpn.org for some information on the impact and history of packaging. Investigate how we recycle our used packaging; what do the materials get made into? Plastic PET bottles get recycled into polyester fibres for fleece lining in duvets, fleece jumpers, pillows and car carpets. Plastic milk bottles can make plastic wood for park benches and pipes for drainage. Glass bottles to glass bottles. How and who funds packaging Recycling? Note: Repak fund packaging recycling from levies charged on its member companies (look for member companies in your area). Repak then use these monies to support recycling collections like green bins, bottle banks and recycling centres. Visit Repak.ie to download their annual activity report.

» **Waste Survey** Do a waste survey. Look at how waste has changed over the last century and how waste can tell us a lot about how people lived in current and previous times. Look at the EPA database 2007 http://www.epa.ie/downloads/pubs/waste/stats/name_25606.en.html to see the different levels of packaging waste recycled.

Recycle More, Recycle Better
www.recyclenore.ie