

Good Garbage vs Bad Garbage



Topic: Waste
Grade: Kindergarten
Duration: 15 – 30 minutes

Students will be challenged to help clean up the area of the schoolyard they play in.

Curriculum Expectations

- Kpsd3: Demonstrate an awareness of health and safety practices
- Kpsd28: Demonstrate consideration for others by helping them
- Kpsd29: Share responsibility for planning classroom events and activities
- Kpsd36: Identify ways in which people use the natural environment

Background Information

Not all things students pick up from the ground are safe. A good rule of thumb is that food wrappers are fine, but cigarettes, broken glass, dog poop are not to be touched. No student should touch garbage without an adult near him or her. Use plastic or latex gloves to protect students. Helping to clean up the environment is part of the solution. Cleaning themselves up afterwards is also important.

Accountability

Students will know how to be safe as they help the environment. Students will try to keep the play area clean. Other classes who buddy with these students could be rewarded for helping.

Teacher Notes

1. Materials: gloves, bags, buddies, parent volunteers
2. Bring in samples of what types of garbage are found out side (pop cans, chip bags, etc.) and ask students if they have seen garbage like this out in the schoolyard.
3. Make the class aware that not all these garbage pieces are safe to pick up.
4. Give them their safety equipment (gloves and bags) and go to the play area. Look to see what kinds of garbage are there.
5. Clean up the area.
6. Talk about how much better it looks and how much nicer it will be to play in a clean, safe yard.

Home Extension

Check rooms and play areas for garbage that can be recycled.