# Recycling

* **What is Waste?**
  + Waste is anything that we throw away that doesn’t get used.
  + Things that might get thrown away everyday include:
    - Food wrappers.
    - Empty water bottles or soda cans.
    - Paper products like old homework assignments.
    - Plastic bags.
    - Spoiled food, extra food, or food peels (like bananas and oranges).
    - Old phones and other electronics.
* **Where does all this waste go?**
  + Items that are thrown away are picked up and taken to the landfill.
    - A landfill is essentially a big pile of garbage.
  + It takes garbage in the landfill hundreds if not thousands of years to break down.
    - During this breakdown, decaying material can pollute the surrounding land and water, as well as harm wildlife and plants.
* **How can we help stop landfills from growing?**
  + **Reduce, Reuse, Recycle!** Lots of things we use every day can be kept out of the landfill by following each of the 3 R’s:
    - **Reduce** – the best thing you can do is use less. Some examples of reducing your waste include:
      * Consider buying slightly used items before making a new purchase; you can find really cool things at thrift stores, or maybe even get them for free from friends or family
      * Buy new items only when you really need them
      * Bring reusable grocery bags to the store instead of using plastic or paper
      * During meals, take only food that you will eat to prevent extra from getting thrown away
    - **Reuse** – carry items that can be reused. Before you throw something away, consider if there are others ways you can use it
      * Carry around a reusable water bottle and refill it at the sink or refill station
      * Bring your lunch and snacks in a reusable lunch box instead of a brown paper bag
      * Instead of throwing away paper scraps, plastic bottles, or other items, see if you can use them for a new art project
    - **Recycle** – this involves taking what would be trash and turning it into something completely new
      * Things like plastic water bottles, paper, cardboard, and soda cans can all be recycled in most cities
      * Other items like glass, electronics, and plastic bags can be recycled, though you should check with your city to see where you should take them
      * **Fun Recycling Facts:**
        + Plastic bottles can be recycled into T-shirts
        + Plastic bags can be recycled into a Frisbee
        + Newspapers can be made into egg cartons
        + Paper can be made into tissues
        + Metal cans can be made into bike and cars parts

 



**Questions:**

**What is a benefit of recycling?**

* + - Recycling reduces pollution
    - Recycling conserves natural resources
    - Recycling saves money
    - **All of the above**

**What are the 3 R’s?**

* + - **Renew, restart, recycle**
    - Reduce, reuse, recycle
    - Reduce, redo, Rihanna
    - Reduce, rinse, repeat

**What item below helps reduce waste?**





**All of them**

**Which of these cannot be recycled?**



1. **Candy wrappers**