**REDUCE REUSE RECYCLE**

**VENN DIAGRAM GAME**

**HOW TO PLAY:**

1. Download, print, and cut the cards to size
   1. Feel free to add your own or edit them
2. Draw a large three-circle venn diagram on poster board or on a chalkboard/whiteboard and label one circle reduce, one reuse, and one recycle
3. Break your students into groups and distribute a stack of shuffled cards to each group
4. Have your students discuss their cards with their group members and decide where each card should go on the diagram
   1. For example, old towels can be reused and recycled, so it would go in the space between reuse and recycle. If the students did not put it there, ask them why and discuss their answer.
5. Have the students come up in an orderly fashion and affix their cards on the diagram
   1. We have found stickytack (poster putty) to be one of the best tools to do this, as it can be easily removed and the cards used again.
6. Discuss their choices and have them explain why they put their cards where they did. Use the teacher key and your own general knowledge to add to the discussion

**OTHER WAYS TO PLAY:**

Another way to play this game is to start three lists labeled Reduce Reuse and Recycle. Ask the students what they reduce, reuse, and recycle in their day-to-day lives (cans, paper, bottles, etc) and add them to the lists. When they can’t think of any more, use the key and your own general knowledge to give them ideas on how else they can reduce, reuse, and recycle.

For young children, try a more visual approach. Bring in pictures of objects (or the objects themselves) that you would reduce, reuse, or recycle and have the kids guess what they can do with those objects.

The point of this game is to get children thinking of both the end process and the beginning process of a product’s life span. For example- Why should water bottles be reduced, reused, and recycled?

Answer: Water bottles are made from oil and chemicals. Oil is a non-renewable resource that pollutes the water and air when being removed from the ground (beginning process) and when it is burned as fuel or made into plastic (end process). Using water bottles that are only used once and not recycled is not sustainable. Encourage students to think of ways they can reduce consumption, like bringing their own reusable bottle.