

# PLANET BUDDY

## LEARNING OUTCOMES

Having completed this badge members will:

- Identify materials according to the principles of reduce, reuse and recycle;
- Demonstrate their knowledge of the harm litter does by assisting in a litter clean up;
- Identify ways to conserve water;
- Plant a tree and explain how trees and plants benefit the environment.



## BADGE REQUIREMENTS

1. Know how to reduce, reuse and recycle and how this helps the planet.
2. Know what litter is and why we shouldn't litter.
3. Know how trees help the environment and plant a tree.
4. Help to clean up around the Army hall.
5. Know two ways to save water.
6. Make a poster about how to be an Earth Friend.

EXPLORERS  
MOONBEAMS

planet buddy



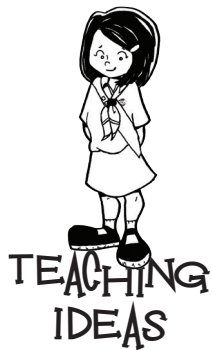
TIME FRAME

Three - Four  
weeks

AIM

To introduce  
members  
to the  
concept of  
environmental  
care.





# Teaching ideas



## 1. Know how to reduce, reuse and recycle and how this helps the planet.

Many councils supply households with coloured garbage bins. Members should know what each bin is for. Members should also know why reducing electricity and water usage is important to the planet and what they can do. Your local council may also have useful information and resources.

### What is recycling?

Recycling means taking materials from products you have finished using and making brand new products with them. For example, most aluminium cans are made with recycled aluminium. So if you drink juice or soda from a can, recycle that can instead of throwing it in the trash. That can will stay in the Recycling Loop and not make the rubbish heap bigger.

### What are recyclable materials?

Aluminium and steel cans, cardboard, glass, newspapers and plastic bottles are all recyclable. These items can be made into new products including cans that hold food and drinks, the steel used to build skyscrapers and school buses, cardboard boxes, glass jars and bottles, newspaper and office paper, plastic laundry detergent bottles and even playground equipment!

Also, food scraps from home or cafeterias at school can be separated rather than put in the trash. The scraps can then be turned back into nutrients that help plants grow through a process called composting, which accelerates the natural decay process. Garden waste, such as grass clippings, leaves and small tree limbs, can become mulch to help gardens grow.

### What about reuse?

Reuse means just what it sounds like: using something again rather than throwing it out. That usually means finding a new use, such as making a jam jar into a drinking glass.

Reuse conserves the energy and raw materials needed to make new products, and doing so saves energy and reduces the amount of pollution factories release into the air and water. By reusing plastic, metal or glass items, you can reduce the need to mine, transport, and manufacture natural resources to make new products.

<http://www.recycling-guide.org.uk/rrr.html>

<http://www.planetpals.com/earthday.html>

### Take small steps

There are dozens of small things that kids can do every day to save energy and keep the world cleaner and greener.

- turn off the water whilst brushing teeth
- walk, ride a bike or take the bus instead of travelling by car
- take shorter showers or bath in a small amount of water
- hang clothes on the line instead of putting them in the dryer

# Teaching ideas



## 2. Know what litter is and why we shouldn't litter.

Take members for a walk around the hall, neighbourhood or park to observe litter. Spend time cleaning up the litter. Be sure all participants wear protective gloves.

Litter is trash of any type thrown where it doesn't belong. Litter is chewing gum wrappers, cigarette butts tossed on the ground or a broken washing machine pushed down a rural hillside.

You can help prevent litter by putting rubbish where it belongs whether at home, school or out in the community and by participating in a community cleanup program.



## 3. Know how trees help the environment and plant a tree.

Talk with the council about planting a tree in a park or nature strip. The council may provide trees if you ask.



## 4. Help to clean up around the Army hall.

Be sure that all members have appropriate protective clothing including gloves.



## 5. Know two ways to save water.

Some rules to conserve water are:

- turn taps off so they don't drip
- have short showers
- use one bucket of water to wash the car and hose the soap off quickly
- sweep paths instead of hosing them
- water gardens early in the morning or late in the evening
- turn the tap off whilst brushing teeth



## 6. Make a poster about how to be an Earth Friend.

The poster should show that members understand Reduce, Reuse, Recycle.



TEACHING  
IDEAS