



Mission: Possible!

The Clean Team Needs You! Our Motto: "Reduce, Reuse, Recycle!"

EP and his friends live in a town called Ecoville. Ecoville is a nice place to live with clean streets and lots of parks. Everybody works hard to keep the town clean. They do it with the words of the Clean Team motto. Whenever they can, they **reduce** the amount of trash that they make, think of ways to **reuse** something before throwing it away, and **recycle** glass, paper and plastic! A new family just moved into town. But, since the Sludge family moved in, there's trouble in Ecoville! They're making the town a mess! EP and the Clean Team are working hard to put things right! But they need your help! Join the Clean Team and help clean up the town!

WANTED!

Your picture Here!

Clean Team Members!
Look around your house, find things you can reduce, reuse and recycle!

We need your help today!
Are you up to the challenge?

Eco Heroes:



EP
The Environmental Protector
occupation:
Superhero

Eco
occupation:
Trusty sidekick



Tortoise Kids
occupation:
Clean Team Members

Eco Villains:



Sam Sludge
owner:
Ecoville Landfill
offense:
doesn't recycle



Samantha Sludge
offense:
Litterbug



Sammy Sludge
offense:
Graffiti painter

Your Mission:

The people of Ecoville are desperate! The Sludge Family is burying the town in a mountain of garbage. The people have called on EP and the Clean Team to rescue them.

EP has sent his trusty sidekicks, the Tortoise Kids, to check out Ecoville and report back to him and Eco at the Clean Team Clubhouse.

But the Sludges have been busy! They have stolen the secret reports made by the Tortoise Kids and mixed the words up!

Your mission, should you accept it, is to solve the mystery of the mixed up reports by using your thinking skills on the next three puzzles. After you've finished your mission, the Sludge Family will know how to live by our motto: reduce, reuse, recycle! Good Luck.





Word Scramble!

Clean Team Mission # 1: REDUCE!

The word "reduce" means to use less. When you use less of something, more is left to use later. This is important because there is a limited amount of clean air, land and water. Another word for these things is "resources." The resources we have won't last forever if we waste them. The Tortoise Kids have found some great ways to reduce our use of Earth's resources. But Sam Sludge has stolen the list and scrambled the words! EP and Eco need your help to unscramble the list before it's too late!

Can you help them? Read the clues. Then try to find the words in the puzzle.

Answer the questions below

1. What can you turn off when you brush your teeth?

2. What do you turn off when you leave a room?

3. Use both sides of this when you draw

4. Instead of driving to nearby places do this

5. Use this instead of paper cups when drinking

6. Do this to glass, paper and plastic _____

Find the answers in the puzzle

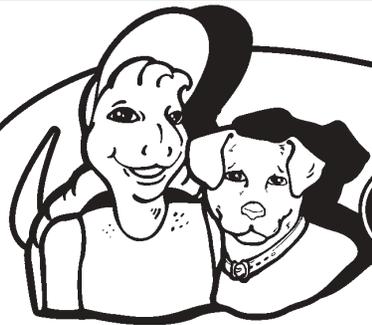
t	r	e	t	a	w	l	y	p	s	g
r	o	r	d	r	f	a	i	r	t	l
e	s	d	e	e	p	a	p	n	h	a
e	m	p	n	e	r	l	h	q	g	s
s	a	s	k	l	a	w	l	f	i	s
p	e	c	o	r	e	c	y	c	l	e

- Puzzle Key
1. water
 2. lights
 3. paper
 4. walk
 5. glass
 6. recycle

Puzzle Key

a	r	e	w	a	y	p	s	g		
k	a	d	f	o	a	!				
x	l	r	e	f	o	a	!			
o	m	p	n	e	r	l	h	q	g	s
e	s	d	e	e	p	a	p	n	h	a
r	o	r	d	r	f	a	i	r	t	l
e	s	k	l	a	w	l	f	i	s	
t	n	d	r	e	c	y	c	l	e	





CrossWord Craze!



Clean Team Mission # 2: REUSE!

The word "reuse" means to use something that could have been thrown away over and over again. When we reuse things instead of throwing them away, our garbage dumps, or landfills, fill up more slowly. This leaves us more land for houses, schools and parks.

Since the Sludge Family has moved to Ecoville, the landfill has begun to fill up too fast because they don't reuse anything!

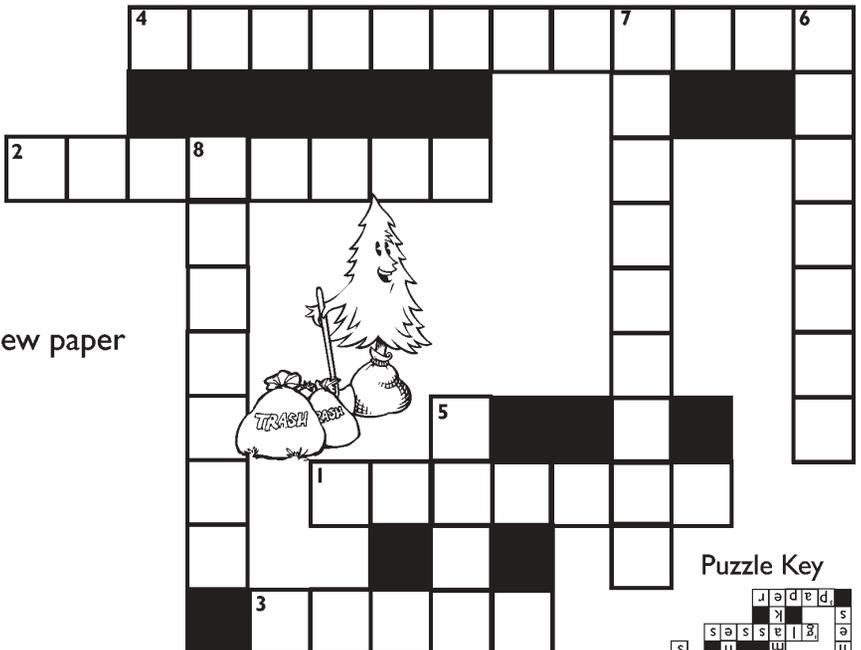
The Tortoise Kids have made a list of things that EP and Eco can do to reuse their stuff. Sammy took the list and erased parts of the most important words! Now, EP and Eco aren't sure what it says! Help them fill in the blanks in the crossword puzzle below!

ACROSS

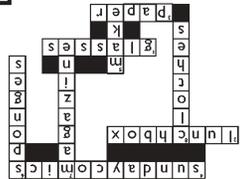
1. Wash old jelly jars and make them drinking g__s__es
2. Carry your lunch in a __ __ch__ox instead of a paper bag. You can use it over and over
3. Ask Mom and Dad to keep a coffee mug at work, instead of using a p__e__ cup that will be thrown away after one use.
4. Use the S__ __ay __om__s to wrap presents instead of new paper

DOWN

5. Instead of buying a Halloween costume, m_k__one out of things at home
6. Don't use paper towels. Use rags or s__ng__
7. Trade books or m__az__e__with your friends instead of throwing them away
8. Sell or give away old c__th__



Puzzle Key





Match Game!

Clean Team Mission # 3: RECYCLE!

The word "recycle" means to use something over again that would have been thrown away.

Most people in Ecoville recycle their trash. Everyone except Samantha Sludge. Samantha is a litterbug. She throws away so much trash that the city is being buried in a mountain of garbage! The Tortoise Kids have found a use for all the trash that Samantha is now wasting, but Samantha has scrambled the list! Can you help EP and Eco sort it all out?

Match the items below to what they will become when they are recycled and help clean up Ecoville!

This old junk



Becomes this new stuff



Organic compost or fertilizer

Plastic bags

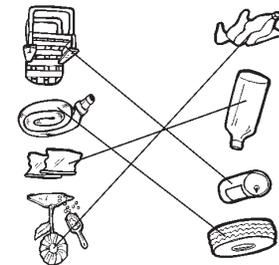
Garden hose

Aluminum lawn chair

Fast facts about Recycling

- An American family of four makes 80 to 150 pounds of trash each week!
- The average American makes 3 to 4 pounds of garbage each day!
- The average American uses 500 pounds of glass a year!

Puzzle Key





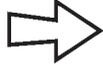
Fun Stuff To Try!



EP and Eco Make Treasure Out of Trash!

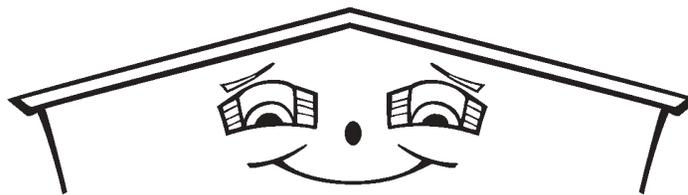
Recycling will make this old junk:

Into this new stuff!



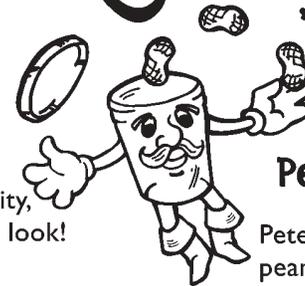
10 Ways You Can Help EP Around Your House!

Think you're too young to help the environment? Think again! There are plenty of things you can do around your house that will help save water, electricity, and keep our landfills from filling up too fast! Take a look!



You Can:

- 1. Save Water:** When you brush your teeth, don't let the water run until you are ready to rinse.
- 2. Save Electricity:** When you leave a room, don't forget to turn off the lights.
- 3. Clean the Air:** Walk or ride your bike for short trips. It's great exercise!
- 4. Recycle:** Instead of buying wrapping paper for presents, use the Sunday comics instead.
- 5. Conserve:** Crush bulky items like milk cartons flat before you throw them away. They take up less room in the trash and it's fun to do!
- 6. Recycle:** Bored with your old toys? Get together with your friends and trade your old, unbroken toys for theirs! You'll each have a new toy!
- 7. Clean the Environment:** Keep your neighborhood clean by picking up cans and bottles.
- 8. Save Electricity:** Try to watch one less hour of TV a day to save electricity.
- 9. Use Less:** Use both sides of the paper when you draw.
- 10. Recycle:** Help out Mom and Dad! Make it your job to collect cans, glass, and newspapers for recycling.



"The 9 Lives of Peter the Peanut Butter Jar"

Peter the Jar used to be filled with peanut butter. But he's empty now. Instead of throwing Peter away, how can we reuse him? We thought of nine things. Bet you can think of lots more!

- 1. Candy jar**
- 2. pencil jar**
- 3. flower pot**
- 4. fishing bait jar**
- 5. arts and crafts jar**
- 6. juice jar**
- 7. nuts and bolts jar**
- 8. small toy keeper**
- 9. piggy bank**



Introducing: Ecoville's Three R's!

Reduce!

What happens when you throw something away?

Every city has a place where they put garbage called a "landfill." Just think what would happen if no one picked up the trash that we make. It would pile up and bury us! Yuck!!



Ecoville has special days when everyone's trash is picked up. People set their trash out so that the Sanitation Workers can take the trash away in big trucks.

In Ecoville, some people recycle their trash. They take cans, bottles and plastic and put them into bins for the Sanitation Workers.

This reduces what has to go into Ecoville's landfill.

Next step: The landfill!

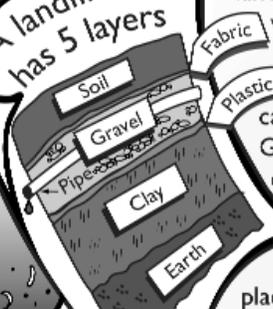


Welcome to the Ecoville Landfill



Sam Sludge owns Ecoville's landfill. A landfill is a big hole in the ground where trash is buried. Landfills have special liners on the sides and bottom. They keep the trash from mixing with the dirt around them because when it rains, the water seeps into the trash in the ground. This makes the water dirty. It musn't mix with clean water in lakes or rivers. Pipes collect the landfill water and it is filtered. The cleaned water can be used to water plants on farms.

A landfill liner has 5 layers



Landfill liners are made of layers like a cake. The layers keep trash in its place. Garbage is put on top of this liner and covered over with dirt so it doesn't smell!

With EP's help, Sam Sludge has built a place to sort out things that can be recycled in Ecoville's trash. This building, the Materials Recovery Facility, is right next to the landfill. Paper, plastic, glass and metals collected here are reused to make new things.



Because less trash is buried in the landfill, it takes longer to fill up! That means Ecoville has more land for parks, houses and schools!

Next step: A peek inside our landfill!

Recycle!

Things that are put into a landfill rot, or decompose, as time passes and become part of the Earth again. Some things take longer to rot than others. Some things never rot at all.

How Long Does It Last?

Let's take a peek into Ecoville's landfill! Can you guess how long it will take for these things to rot?

- Banana Peel: 2 months!
- Cardboard Milk Carton: 5 years!
- Plastic Sandwich Bags: 400 years!
- Glass Bottle: Maybe Never!
- Car Tire: Maybe Never!
- Foam Cup: Maybe Never!

What about this stuff?

As you can see, some things we put into landfills never decompose! But the good news is we can recycle most of them! It only takes a few minutes each day. Ask your mom or dad to recycle whenever they can!

