



Linear vs. Circular Systems Worksheet

Use this worksheet to accompany the “Recology for Kids” presentation, which explains the difference between linear and circular systems and how materials flow through each system.

Check Your Understanding – Natural Resources

- a. What is a natural resource? Do we have unlimited natural resources on our planet?

- b. List three items you use every day. What natural resources are they made from?

Items Used Every Day	Natural Resource Used
1.	
2.	
3.	

Review the Life Story – The Landfill Bin

Put the following steps in order to describe what happens when we put something that doesn't belong into the landfill bin. Start by writing the number “1” next to the step you think is first.

- _____ A large truck is loaded with all the garbage from SF and drives to the landfill.
- _____ Natural resources are removed from earth (example: trees chopped, oil drilled, or rocks mined).
- _____ Our item is used and then mistakenly placed in the landfill bin.
- _____ We purchase our item from a store.
- _____ The landfill bin is rolled to the curb and picked up by a Recology collection truck.
- _____ We can't reuse our item anymore – all the landfill bin material is wasted in the landfill forever.
- _____ Recology trucks dump what they collected into the Transfer Station pit, where nothing is sorted.
- _____ Natural resources are used to create our item and it can be found on store shelves.



Draw a Life Story – Composting Our Food Scraps

Draw what happens when you place your food scraps **in the green compost bin**. Be sure to think about how this process is different than if you placed them in the landfill or recycling bin.

What is Special About Compost? Create an Announcement!

Use this space to write a slogan, draw a poster, create a meme, or design an announcement to creatively tell your peers what is special, different, and/or exciting about compost.

Reduce, Reuse, Refuse

Write an example of how you can do each of the following in your own life:

- Reduce how much stuff you use and throw away:
- Reuse something you have in a new way, instead of throwing it out:
- Refuse something you are offered but you don't need: