

4R's BINGO Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, Rot-Compost

Background: The 4R's are useful reminders to practice waste reduction at home, school and/or around town. "Nobody can do everything, but everyone can do something" is another great quote reminding us that we can all make a difference with the small everyday actions we take.

Lesson: See how many actions you are already doing to show you practice the 4R's by playing the 4R's BINGO. Answer the questions on Page 2 when you finish.

Directions:

1. Read all the 4R's actions in the BINGO card below.
2. Mark off the ones that you do from _____ to _____.
3. Five actions in a row wins the game!

Used or gave away a hand-me down clothing item	Used a refillable water bottle	Put yard waste in your green compost cart	Wrote or helped to write a shopping list	Put a glass item in a blue recycling cart
Ate left-overs	Put food scraps in a compost bin	Used a metal straw	Made a pile of leaves and twigs outside of your home for insects	Used an item and repurposed it for something else
Wrote, drew or made notes on both sides of a piece of paper	Put cardboard in a recycling cart	Free Space 	Made a re-use craft or art piece	Put the blue recycling cart on the curb
Put the green compost cart on the curb	Re-purposed an item for a pet or backyard wildlife	Planted veggies, flowers, or spent time in a garden or outside	Borrowed a book	Disposed of batteries in special disposal bag or bucket
Used cloth napkins or cloth towels for cleaning instead of paper	Repaired an item instead of thrown it away	Put items in a bag to be donated	Put aluminum or metal cans in a recycling cart	Put food-soiled paper or a pizza box in a compost cart.

Answer the following questions:

1. How many 4R's actions (out of 24) did you check off? Write in a fun name for each of the categories below. The first one was done for you.

0 - 6	7 - 12	13 - 18	19 - 24
4R's Happy Helper			

2. Why is making a shopping list or eating leftovers a 4R's action? Go to www.stopfoodwaste.org to find out more about the actions you can take to reduce food waste.

3. Did you check off any of the boxes with the word "re-use", "repurpose" or "repair"? Choose one of the actions you checked off and describe it in detail.

4. Were you able to check off all the boxes that had to do with recycling? If not, which ones were you missing?

5. Why do you think a pile of leaves and twigs somewhere outside of your home is a part of the 4R's?

6. Explain why napkins, paper plates and greasy pizza boxes belong in the green compost cart and not the recycling cart.

7. Did you find a special disposal bag or other receptacle for batteries in your home? Explain what your household does once that bag is full.

8. Write down any other actions that you or your household members do to practice the 4R's?