

# PROTECTING

# the Planet



THE ENVIRONMENTAL  
**DEFENDERS**

Created by the  
Los Angeles County  
Department of Public Works  
Environmental Programs Division © 2000

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# THREE R'S

**Hi kids!**

You can be an Environmental Defender and help protect the planet from pollution if you practice the Three R's:

*Reduce, Reuse and Recycle!*



Draw a line from each of the Three R's to its meaning:

*Reduce*

*Reuse*

*Recycle*

A. Use something over and over again.

B. Make something new out of something old.

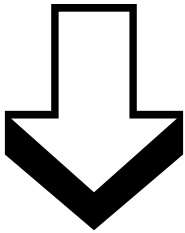
C. Use less and make less garbage.

# REDUCE

**Reduce** means  
to use less and make less garbage.  
That means less garbage goes  
to the landfills.



The numbers below  
spell out a secret  
message. Use the  
Environmental  
Defenders' Secret  
Code to find out a  
good way to  
**reduce.**



Secret code:

- 01 = H
- 02 = Y
- 03 = A
- 04 = W
- 05 = P
- 06 = F
- 07 = E
- 08 = R
- 09 = D
- 10 = I
- 11 = T
- 12 = B
- 13 = O
- 14 = N
- 15 = S
- 16 = U

16-15-07 12-13-11-01 15-10-09-07-15 13-06

11-01-07 05-03-05-07-08 04-01-07-14 02-13-16

04-08-10-11-07 13-08 09-08-03-04.

# REUSE

You can help protect the planet from pollution if you choose items you can **reuse** over and over again instead of items you throw away after one use.

Find and circle the items you can reuse:

X W C R S E L Q F C E O X A W P  
 C B I D F H O K N L R T O J R I  
 A G C N M Y V U M O T H E O K C  
 F W A T E R B O T T L E F Q N U  
 L B N U H M O J L H E R E D Y O  
 Z J V T G E T Y U N O M C V S D  
 S V A C L O T H R A G O J K P L  
 C T S L A P E N A P L S R H U B  
 E A B O S S L C N K A O E Z C S  
 D L A T S F Q U E I F C D P E E  
 F K G G E D U J X N Z T E T T C  
 L C J E S Y H I O E B G A A E M  
 S L W O B R L S B Q O L Q U H R  
 S S G K P D Y E H L P P B K Y B  
 R E N I A T N O C C I T S A L P  
 A Q V V D B E S N E Q R C E I F  
 P M K I S Z A Y U Z O Z S P T Y  
 T F H T N P M D L O M S G A J H  
 K Z O J U K X G N S N O O P S E

**Thermos**  
*(instead of juice box)*

**Canvas bag**  
*(instead of paper bag)*

**Water bottle**  
*(can be refilled)*

**Cloth rag**  
*(instead of paper towel)*

**Lunch box**  
*(instead of paper bag)*

**Plastic container**  
*(instead of plastic bag)*

**Cloth napkins**  
*(instead of paper napkins)*

*Use silverware, or wash  
 and reuse plastic...*

**Knives**

**Forks**

**Spoons**

*Instead of paper,  
 use reusable...*

**Glasses**

**Cups**

**Plates**

**Bowls**



# RECYCLE

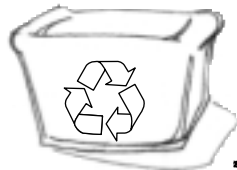
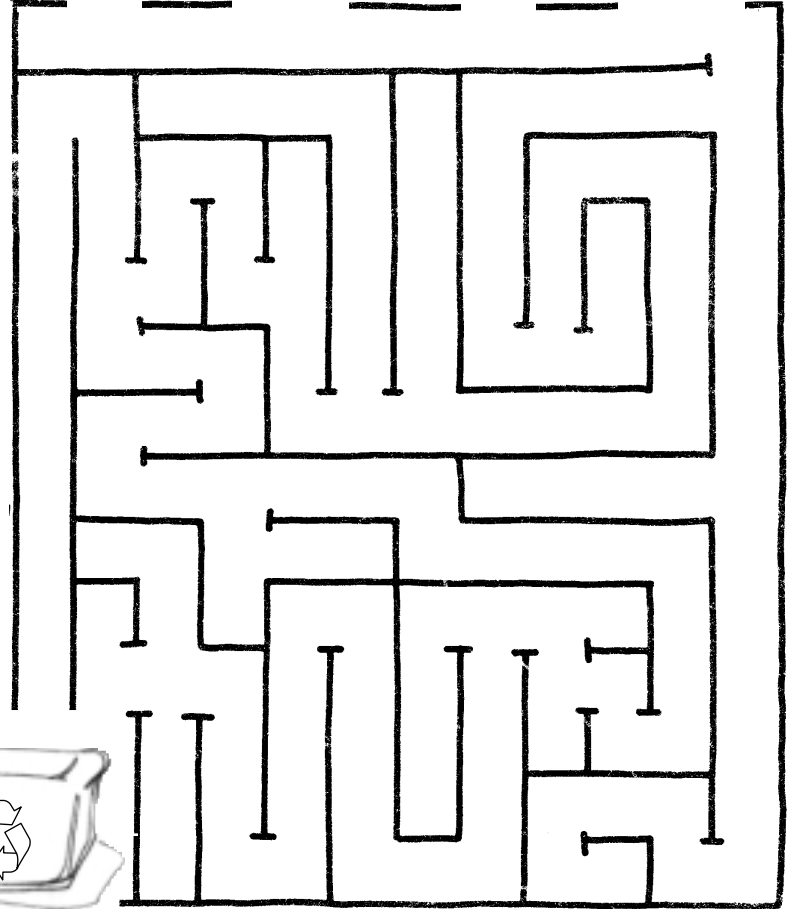
R

R

*Recycling* helps protect the environment and save our natural resources.



Take these items through the maze to the recycling bin:

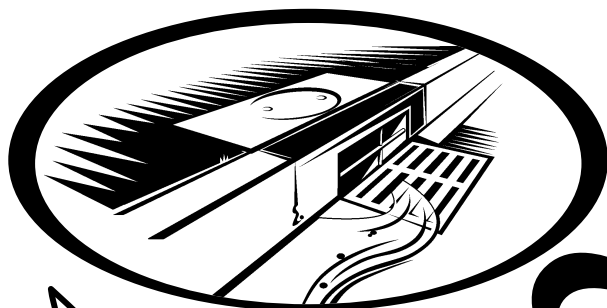


# STORMWATER POLLUTION

*Storm drains, those openings in the gutter, lead straight to the ocean. So, anything besides rainwater that washes into the gutter will pollute the ocean and the beach.*

What is the only thing that should go in a storm drain?  
Unscramble the word below to find out the answer:

**WRATENIRA** \_\_\_\_\_



Anything that goes in a storm drain goes to the ocean.



# HHW

Household hazardous waste (HHW) is any unwanted amount of products with warnings like "poison," "toxic" or "flammable" on the label. They will harm the environment if they are poured on the ground or put in the trash.



Circle the items below that are HHW:



To get rid of HHW, take it to an HHW Collection Event. Visit [www.888cleanla.com](http://www.888cleanla.com) to find one near you.



# ILLEGAL DUMPING

Putting old furniture and other unwanted items by the side of the road is called "illegal dumping." Help protect the environment and keep your neighborhood clean. If you see something dumped illegally, ask your parents to call 1-888-CLEAN LA and report it.

Find and circle the following illegally dumped items hidden in the picture: sofa, refrigerator and tire.



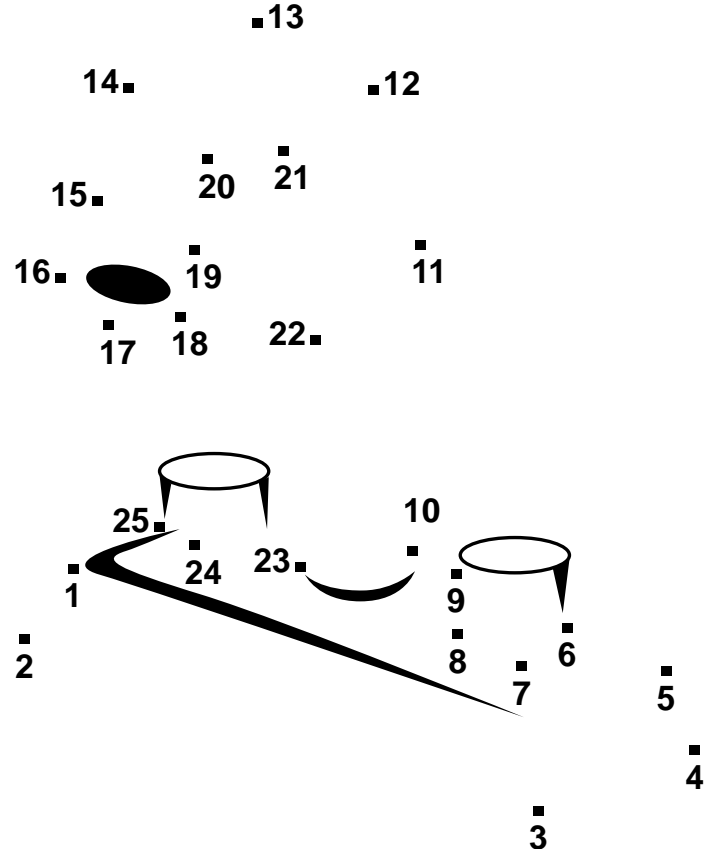
# SAVING WATER

**Water** is a very important natural resource. We need to use less and waste less whenever we can.

**Clue:**

To use less water, turn it off while brushing your teeth. To waste less water, have leaky ones fixed right away.

Connect the dots to find one way of using and wasting less water.



You can be an Environmental Defender too. By using the Three R's, you can help prevent pollution, protect our planet and save our natural resources.

These natural resources are used to make items that can be reused and recycled. Draw a line from the item to the natural resource used to make it.

Metals

Trees

Sand

Oil



A. Paper



B. Aluminum or tin cans



C. Plastic



D. Glass

When you reuse and recycle these items, you can help save the natural resources used to make them.



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