

## Module 1

### Environmental Awareness and Conservation of Natural Resources Education Module

#### Introduction

Introduce children and students of different ages about diverse possibilities to recycle and describe various conservation practices according to the type of waste in the school, pre-school and university.

#### Session 1 Trees in the park

#### Stage of pre-school education

Duration - 30 minutes

#### Resources required

- plastic bottle cap
- modeling clay
- a tree branch
- wool



#### Methodology:

- discussion
- exchange of ideas
- modeling and demonstrating
- practical activity with waste materials

#### Output:

Participants will be able to recycle and describe different resource conservation practices according to the type of waste in the pre-school.

#### Procedure:

1. The teacher explores materials together with the children to get to know the materials.
2. Discussion with children about whether objects are natural or artificial.
3. Finding out the children's experiences about where they have seen and encountered such objects and what can be done with them.
4. Making of trees. The teacher works together with the children: modeling clay is divided into small pieces. The small pieces of modeling clay are pressed into the bottle cap and a tree branch is fixed there. Pieces of wool are placed on a twig, so

as to form the foliage of a tree. The color of the wool is selected according to the desired season. Snowy trees are made using white wool, green trees are formed using green wool etc.

**Questions:**

1. How could we use modeling clay and the bottle cap?
2. What can we make from a bottle cap, modelling clay and a twig?
3. How can we use wool?

**Session 2**  
*Candle holder for a tea candle*

**Stage of pre-school education**

Duration - 45 minutes

**Resources required**

- glass jar
- scraps of beeswax cell plate
- pearls, glitters
- scraps of metal wire
- tealight candles in metal cups



**Methodology:**

- discussion
- task analysis
- exchange of ideas
- modeling and demonstrating
- practical activity with waste materials

**Output:**

Participants will be able to understand the concept of upcycling and suggest practices for upcycling.

**Procedure:**

1. Attracts children's attention by showing a candle holder. Is it handmade or factory made?
2. Discuss what materials to make the candle holder from. What have children made of wax, how have they used glass jars? What materials are used to decorate the candle holder?
3. Materials necessary for creative activity are selected (glass jar, beeswax cell plates, wire, pearls, glitter).

4. The teacher works together with the children. The glass jar is covered with scraps of beeswax cell plate and decorated with pearls and glitters.

**Questions:**

1. What materials is the candle holder made of?
2. Where did we find these materials, have they ever been used?
3. Why is it good not to throw away waste materials?

**Session 3**  
**Toys made of waste materials**

**Stage of pre-school education**

Duration - 1 hour

**Resources required**

A box containing various materials, e.g.

- paper roll
- scraps of paper
- scraps of fabric
- twisted yarn, string
- leftover modeling clay
- buttons, pearls
- markers, coloured pencils
- glue



**Methodology:**

- discussion
- sharing thoughts
- practical activity with waste materials

**Output:**

The participants will be able to identify types of waste and explain the origins of the waste generated.

**Procedure:**

1. "Surprise Box" is received which contains various materials.
2. Materials are grouped, arranged by color, material, texture, application, etc.
3. Discussion of what can be created from these materials.
4. A problem situation/problem question is raised - How to combine these materials to make a toy?
5. Creative activity with materials.
6. Discussions about the progress of the work and the materials used.

**Questions:**

1. What materials are the toys made of? Can you name them?
2. What other materials could be used to make the toy?
3. Can you give some examples of waste reuse?
4. How does the reuse of waste help preserve natural resources?

**Session 4**  
**Characters for puppet theatre**

**Stage of pre-school education**

Duration - 45 minutes

**Resources required**

- scraps of paper
- cardboard
- markers, coloured pencils
- glue
- paper clips

**Methodology:**

- discussion
- sharing thoughts
- modeling and demonstrating
- practical activity with waste materials

**Output:**

Participants will be able to understand the concept of upcycling and suggest practices for upcycling.

**Procedure:**

1. Attracts children's attention with a problem situation - characters are needed for a puppet theater.
2. Discussions with children about what to make characters from. What materials are found the most in the group. How can paper scraps be used? Can they be made into a puppet for the theater?
3. The teacher works together with the children and makes characters for the puppet theatre. The silhouette of the character is drawn, coloured and cut out. The silhouette is pasted on the cardboard in such a way that a paper clip can be inserted between the edges so that the figure stays firmly on the surface and does not fall.

4. Discussion about the progress of the activity and collecting ideas about what else could be created in this technique.

**Questions:**

1. Why do you think that your created puppet character is valuable?
2. Can you give some examples of reusing paper?
3. How does the use of paper scraps help preserve natural resources?

**Session 5**  
**Characters for puppet theatre - marionette**

**Stage of primary education**

Duration - 1 hour

**Resources required**

- paper roll
- scraps of paper
- auduma atgriezumi
- twisted yarn, string
- used felt-tip pens
- markers, coloured pencils
- glue
- scissors



**Methodology:**

- discussion
- task analysis
- exchange of ideas
- practical activity with waste materials

**Output:**

Participants will be able to explain reduce, reuse, recycle and describe different resource conservation practices according to the type of waste in the school.

**Procedure:**

1. Group work. The group gets to know the waste material (paper, fabric scraps, old felt-tip pens, twisted yarn) and collects ideas on what could be done from these materials. Exchange of ideas.
2. Discussion with the groups about what kind of artwork they could create from the materials.
3. Problem question - can you make a marionette from these materials?

4. Work on creating a marionette. Make the head and body of the doll from paper rolls. The doll's face is made from scraps of paper, and the hair is made from twisted yarn. Garments are made from scraps of fabric. The legs and arms of the doll are made by stringing pieces of used felt-tip pens that have been cut in advance. A string is attached to the head, arms and legs of the marionette so that the puppet can move.

**Questions:**

1. Can you name what materials a marionette is made of?
2. Why is the marionette special, valuable?
3. What do our actions show that we have acted in a nature-friendly way?
4. How does reusing waste help to conserve natural resources?

**Session 6**  
**Hand puppet**

**Stage of primary education**

Duration - 1 hour

**Resources required**

- a sock
- felt scraps
- buttons
- needle, thread
- scissors



**Methodology:**

- discussion
- exchange of ideas
- practical activity with waste materials

**Output:**

Participants will be able to understand the concept of upcycling and suggest practices for upcycling.

**Procedure:**

1. Exchange of ideas on what to do with one sock.
2. Creative activity. Choose a sock that will be the body of the hand puppet. Then the parts for the ears, eyes, and mouth are cut out of the scraps of felt. Ears and eyes are sewn to the sock. The toe of the sock is tied with thread to create a nose, and a button is sewn to the end.
3. Students present their created hand puppets and reveal why the puppet is valuable and why making this is a useful project.

**Questions:**

1. Why are buttons good materials for hand puppet eyes?
2. What other things could be used to make a doll?
3. What are the types of waste that can be recycled?

**Session 7**  
**Wallet****Stage of primary education**

Duration - 1 hour

**Resources required**

- coffee packaging
- rifle
- needle, thread

**Methodology:**

- discussion
- exchange of ideas
- practical activity with waste materials

**Output:**

Participants will be able to understand the concept of upcycling and suggest practices for upcycling.

**Procedure:**

1. Discussion with students, have they ever used any waste materials to create any other artwork/project?
2. Ideas are written on the board, why it is good to create works of art/projects from waste materials.

3. A discussion and exchange of ideas about the possibilities of using a used coffee packet follows.
4. A wallet is made. Cut off the bottom of the coffee bag. Cut one side edge. Fold the coffee package over to the other side. Choose the size of the wallet, cut it to the desired size. Sew the two side edges together, leaving the top edge open. Sew a zipper.

**Questions:**

1. What other materials could be used to make the wallet?
2. Why is a coffee bag a good material for making a wallet?
3. Would you choose other's materials if they were available? Which ones?

**Session 8**  
**Hand puppet**

**Stage of secondary education**

Duration - 1 hour

**Resources required**

- modeling clay
- newspapers
- glue
- acrylic paints
- scraps of fabric
- yarn



**Methodology:**

- discussion
- exchange of ideas
- modeling
- practical activity with waste materials

**Output:**

The participants will be able to identify types of waste and explain the origins of the waste generated.

**Procedure:**

1. Discussion in groups about how newspapers can be used. Collecting ideas.
2. Problem question - what artwork can be created from a newspaper? Have you created 3D works from the newspaper? What should be done to create such a work of art?
3. The head of the hand puppet is created using the papier-mâché technique. The newspaper is torn into small pieces and pasted over the previously created shape, for example, a rooster's head. Once the form is glued, it is painted afterwards.
4. A hand puppet glove is sewn from fabric scraps and decorated using yarn.

**Questions:**

1. Why is making a hand puppet an effective way of preserving natural resources?
2. What kind of waste was recycled to make the hand puppet?
3. Can you give some examples of waste reuse?
4. How does the reuse of waste help preserve natural resources?
5. What other waste materials could be used to decorate a doll?

### Session 9

#### Decorative hand puppet

**Stage of secondary/ higher education**

Duration - 1 hour

**Resources required**

- modeling clay
- acrylic paint
- fabric scraps
- wire scraps
- pearls

**Methodology:**

- discussion
- task analysis
- exchange of ideas
- group work
- modeling
- practical activity with waste materials

**Output:**

The participants will be able to identify types of waste and explain the origins of the waste generated.

**Procedure:**

1. Discussion on how fabric scraps can be used. Why is it good to use them? Can the design of the artwork be realized by using them?
2. Group work. Fabric scraps are sorted by colour and texture. Problem question - is it possible to group scraps of fabric to create a certain animal, considering the colour of the animal's coat?
3. Making a decorative hand puppet. According to the plumage of the animal, the scraps of fabric are arranged in such a way that, when sewn, they are associated with the specific animal.
4. The glove of the hand puppet is decorated with scraps of wire.

**Questions:**

1. Why is it meaningful to use fabric scraps?
2. Why is using fabric scraps an effective way to preserve natural resources?
3. What other types of waste can be used to create a decorative hand puppet?
4. Can you provide some examples of recycling waste?
5. How does recycling waste help preserve natural resources?