

# Visit a Local Recycling Centre

**Recommended Key Stage:** 1 and 2

**Recommended group size:** 6- 30 children

**Duration:** 10 minutes in the classroom, 15-20 minutes at the Local Recycling Centre plus additional time for walking

**Overview:** There are over 100 Local Recycling Centres (LRCs) across Test Valley. Based within the community, these centres allow residents to recycle items that are not collected in the brown recycling bin but can be recycled in some way.

This session provides children with the chance to understand why LRCs are important, where their nearest LRC is and how LRCs help everyone in their community to recycle more and waste less.

Follow this guide to organise your own visit to a LRC near your school.

## Learning Objectives:

- ★ To explore what recycling means and why it is an important option for dealing with waste
- ★ Explore the concept of LRCs
- ★ Understand the role LRCs play in helping communities recycle
- ★ Introduce the concept of the 3Rs (Reduce, Reuse, Recycle)
- ★ Explore what happens to the items taken to a LRC
- ★ Understand the importance of sharing good recycling practices
- ★ To explore how recycling has evolved in Test Valley

## Key Vocabulary:

Local Recycling Centre  
LRC  
Glass bottles and jars  
Textiles  
Clothes  
Shoes  
Media  
Reduce  
Reuse  
Recycle

## Curriculum Links:

### Geography

- ★ Field work and observational skills
- ★ Key features in the environment surrounding school

### Science

- ★ Materials and their properties
- ★ Changes to materials and states of matter

### PHSE

- ★ The local community
- ★ Local and global environmental issues

## Preparation:

**This is an independent activity for schools to plan and arrange for their pupils. Subject to availability, the Recycling Stars team may be able to meet groups at their chosen site.**

Follow this simple checklist to arrange a trip to a LRC.

- 1) Visit the recycling locator [www.recyclenow.com/local-recycling](http://www.recyclenow.com/local-recycling) to identify a suitable LRC within walking distance of your school.
  - ★ Choose a site that has a safe walking route.
  - ★ Where possible, choose a site that has a number of different collection banks, with plenty of space for children to safely move around the LRC.
- 2) Plan a safe walking route from school to the LRC
  - ★ Walk this route in advance to check it is safe and achievable.
  - ★ Conduct a risk assessment
- 3) Read the LRC resource sheet and print any resources required.
- 4) Encourage children to bring along items that they can recycle during the visit.

## Resources provided by Recycling Stars:

- ★ LRC resource sheet

## Resources to be provided by school:

- ★ Route plan
- ★ Risk assessment
- ★ Required number of adults to satisfy adult : child ratio requirements.

## Resources to be provided by children:

- ★ 1 item that can be recycled at the LRC

## Outline of activities:

### In the classroom

#### Introduction to LRCs

- ★ Explain that LRCs collect items for recycling and reuse what cannot be recycled in the brown bin at home
- ★ Explain that Test Valley Borough Council provides LRCs to help residents recycle more and waste less (**refer to LRC Resource Sheet for more information**)
- ★ Ask children if they use an LRC and if they know of one nearby
- ★ Ask children to list items they know can be taken to an LRC

Explain what will happen on today's visit

- ★ Share the location of the site they will be visiting
  - ★ Children can be shown how to find an LRC through the recycling locator website (**refer to the LRC Resource Sheet for more information**)
- ★ Health and Safety briefing- include the following points
  - ★ Walking on the pavements
  - ★ Crossing roads
  - ★ Respecting members of the public

## Timings:

**10 minutes**

- ★ At the LRC
- ★ Using the LRC

#### At the LRC

##### Investigate the LRC

- ★ Identify the types of collection bank at the site and what they collect.
- ★ Focus on each collection type:
  - ★ Explain how it is collected (**refer to LRC Resource Sheet for more information**)
  - ★ Look out for any special requirements relating to each collection bank:
    - ★ Overflowing bank instructions
    - ★ Separating glass by colour
    - ★ Shoes in pairs
    - ★ Clothes in bags
  - ★ Explain what happens to the items after they are collected (**refer to LRC Resource Sheet for more information**)
- ★ Invite children to deposit the items they have bought with them in the appropriate containers

15-20 minutes

#### On returning to school

##### Plenary Activity- to be conducted at school

- ★ Check children's learning
  - ★ Children should be able to recall the items that can be taken to LRCs
  - ★ Why is it important to use LRCs?
  - ★ Ask children to explain the recycling process
  - ★ What did they learn that they did not know before they visited?
- ★ Ask children how they could encourage people to use the LRC?
  - ★ When could people use LRCs?
  - ★ Could they help others recycle more?

5-10 minutes

#### Follow up activities:

- ★ Design a poster or leaflet to encourage people to use their local LRC
- ★ Encourage children to research what can be recycled near their home using the recycling locator
- ★ Encourage children to research additional items that can be recycled in their area e.g. batteries, lightbulbs, spectacles etc.
- ★ Hold an assembly about LRCs to share information with other pupils

#### External links and information:

- ★ LRC Resource Sheet  
[www.testvalley.gov.uk/recyclingstars](http://www.testvalley.gov.uk/recyclingstars)
- ★ Recycling in Test Valley. Download our comprehensive recycling guide here:  
[www.testvalley.gov.uk/resident/wasteandrecycling/recycling/cannot-recycle-test-valley](http://www.testvalley.gov.uk/resident/wasteandrecycling/recycling/cannot-recycle-test-valley)
- ★ Local Recycling Centres  
[www.testvalley.gov.uk/resident/wasteandrecycling/recycling/local-recycling-centres](http://www.testvalley.gov.uk/resident/wasteandrecycling/recycling/local-recycling-centres)
- ★ Recycle Now- Recycling locator  
[www.recyclenow.com/local-recycling](http://www.recyclenow.com/local-recycling)
- ★ The Salvation Army Trading Company  
[www.satradngco.org/](http://www.satradngco.org/)
- ★ ACE Carton Recycling  
[www.ace-uk.co.uk/home](http://www.ace-uk.co.uk/home)