



**2009 MSDE Annual Convening of Service-Learning
Leaders –Washington County**

Service-Learning Unit

Shopping with Earth Awareness

Primary Subject: Science

Grade Level: 6

Additional Subject Area Connections:
English, Social Studies

Unit Title: Shopping with Earth Awareness

Type(s) of Service: Advocacy

Unit Description: The 6th grade students at Northern Middle School learned about the 3 Rs: Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle as part of the 6th grade science curriculum, ecology unit. During that unit, students investigated the waste generated at their school by assessing the contents of the paper recycling bins and comparing the packing content of many items. As a culminating unit, each student designed and painted their own reusable shopping bag that were transformed into works of art reflecting the creative images of how the young people are getting excited about environmental issues. A competition was held for the best bag design. This activity equipped the students to practice the first and most important “R” – Reduce by not accepting plastic bags. The students were now able to educate their parents about environmental responsibility, one bag at a time.

Potential Service-Learning Action

Experiences: Presentations by the county recycling Coordinator; Visit to the landfill

Maryland Curriculum Standards Met

Science:

6.0 Environmental Science

Natural Resources & Human Needs

1. Recognize and compare how different parts of the world have varying amounts & types of natural resources and how the use of those resources impacts environmental quality.

a. Identify & describe natural resources as

-Land

-Fossil fuels

-Forests

-Water

-Wind

-Minerals

-Wildlife

B. Environmental Issues

1. Recognize and explain that human-caused changes have consequences for Maryland’s environment as well as for other places and future times.

Goal 1: Skills and Processes (gr. 6-8)

The student will apply the skills, processes, and concepts of biology, chemistry, physics, and earth science to societal issues.

English

2A4J Connect the text to prior knowledge or experience to clarify, extend, or challenge the ideas in the text or a portion in the text

Social Studies

Student will use geographic concepts & processes to examine the role of culture, technology, & the environment in the location and distribution of human activities and special connections throughout time.

D. Modifying & adapting to the Environment

Washington County Public Schools



**This material is based upon a template for service-learning experiences created by the Maryland State Department of Education. Opinions or points of view expressed in this document are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the official position of the Maryland State Department of Education or constitute an endorsement.*