

# Soybean Recycling

Grades: Pre-K- 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade

*GPS Standard:*

*SD 2e. Participates in activities related to preserving the environment (Pre K)*

*SKP1. Students will describe objects in terms of the materials they are made of and their physical properties (K)*

*S1C55a. Describe and compare things in terms of number, shape, texture, size, weight, color, and motion (Grade 1)*

*S2C55. Describe and compare things in terms of number, shape, texture, size, weight, color, and motion (Grade 2)*

**Materials:** 3 large plastic bins (each needs a label: Glass, Plastic, and Paper), a handful of soybeans, 1 empty container of each of the following: soy milk, baby food (glass jar), baby formula, vegetable oil, margarine (plastic container with lid), salad dressing (glass), ice cream (cardboard or plastic container), yogurt, cereal, dairy creamer, bread (plastic bag), candy (plastic bag), soy sauce (glass jar), mayonnaise (glass jar), Twinkie's (cardboard box), Animal Crackers (cardboard box), Pop Tarts (cardboard box), carpet stain remover, soap, crayons, tofu, soy cream cheese, plastic tube of lipstick, muffin mix, spaghetti sauce (glass jar), spaghetti, 1 empty cardboard box of cereal bars, fruit snacks, Boca Burgers, 1 empty cardboard box of cookies, and 1 empty cardboard box of crackers

**Introduction/Hook (4 min):** Say, "Today we're going to talk about soybeans!" Show a handful of real soybeans and explain that these are a type of bean grown on Uncle Shuck's farm. Say, "Farmers grow soybeans for many different reasons. Did you know that soybeans are in many of the foods and items you use at your house? For example, there are soybeans in some baby formula (show the container after you say each product). This is food that babies drink. There are also soybeans in some vegetable oils, baby food, salad dressing, margarine, muffin mix, soy milk, ice cream, yogurt, some cereals, creamer, bread, candy, soy sauce, mayonnaise, Twinkie's, Boca Burgers (these are like hamburgers), Animal Crackers, Pop Tarts, household cleaners, soap, crayons, tofu, cream cheese, lipstick, fruit snacks, spaghetti sauce, spaghetti, crackers, and even some cookies!" As you life each container, ask the students if they know what the product is and if they eat (or use) it at their house.

**Lesson (4 min):** Say, "When you use these items at your house (point to the items you just showed) it is important to recycle them and not just put them in the trash! What does *recycle* mean?" Call on a volunteer or two. Say, "When you recycle something, it gets made into something new. That way, it doesn't just sit in the garbage and pollute our Earth. When you send items to the recycling centers, they have to be sorted into different categories. So, today we're going to help sort these items into the correct bins. Does anyone know what this bin says?" Show the first bin labeled "Glass." Sound out the word (out loud). Ask the kids what glass looks like and what it feels like. Next, show the "Plastic" and "Paper" bins and repeat the same process.

**Activity (5 min):** Hand one of the containers to each child. Line the children up and let them walk past the bins. Let each child guess where the container should go (in the glass bin, plastic bin, or paper bin) and drop it in as they pass. When the children are done, tell them to sit down and one by

one lift up the different items and ask if it is in the correct bin (if it has been misplaced, put it in the correct bin and ask for volunteers to say how they know it has been misplaced). Say, "Great! Now these items are ready to be recycled!"

**Closure/ Real World Connection (2 min):** Say, "Raise your hand if you use recycling bins at home! It is important to recycle all materials, not just those materials made from soybeans. When you recycle, you are helping our Earth! What are some things you can put in the recycling bin at your house?" Call on volunteers to give suggestions.