

Meeting Plan

for Ages 9-11 year olds

Planet Protection

GOAL: To encourage everyone to try and make a positive impact on the environment through their daily actions and activities.

MATERIALS REQUIRED:

CRAFT

MAKE YOUR OWN PAPER:

- Shredded newspapers
- Water
- Blender/food processor
- Old picture frame (size 4x6 or smaller)
- Piece of screen
- Flower pedals, small leaves, etc. (optional)

RECYCLED PAPER BEADS

- Brightly coloured paper - ie. magazine pages, gift wrap, etc.
- White glue or glue sticks
- Scissors
- Yarn/String/Fishing line/Something that can be used to string beads

PREPARATION TIME:

20 - 45 minutes



Opening

Enjoy your usual Opening.

Challenge everyone to make small changes in their daily routines - turning the water off when they brush their teeth, making sure to always turn off electronics when done when them, taking the time to recycle cans/boxes/paper/etc instead of throwing them away, and so on.

Challenge the group to think of new uses for old things. For example, turning their old clothes into cleaning rags; using newspaper as wrapping paper for friends birthday presents; milk jugs can become bird feeders; soup cans can become pencil holders; shoe boxes can be used for storage; toys you don't need or use anymore can go to charity.

ONE BAG CHALLENGE

Challenge everyone to get their families involved and try and reduce their trash down to one bag a week.



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Community Service / Activity Ideas

PARK CLEAN UP

Volunteer to clean up a park with the kids if possible.

DONATION TOUR

If possible, a "donation tour," taking the group to a local thrift store/recycling center/etc. Use the real-life examples presented to show/teach how anything from old blankets to outgrown clothes and more can be reused for many different purposes.

SWAP PARTY

Have a "Swap Party." Ask everyone to all bring in something they no longer use or need (toys, clothes, school supplies, etc) then get them to trade around so they each end up with something new to them. Anything leftover could also be donated to a thrift shop/shelter/etc.

GROCERY BAG PROJECT

Get in touch with a local grocery store and ask if they're willing to partner with you by donating some brown bags. If they are willing, have the group decorate the bags with environmentally friendly messages and return bags to the grocery store for store to give out to customers.

PLANT A TREE

Plant a tree in a local park or in someone's back yard.

TRASH OR NOT

Put together a bag of things such as newspaper, milk jugs, boxes, and items that could be considered trash and have them sort through everything deciding which items can be recycled and why or why not.

ALPHABET SCAVENGER HUNT

Weather permitting, go outside and have the group do an Alphabet Scavenger Hunt where they find an item for every letter of the alphabet. Have them discuss their findings and determine which items they found that belonged in nature (ie. leaves or sticks) and which ones they found that were harmful to the environment.



Craft

Make Your Own Paper

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Remove glass and back from picture frame and trace outside of frame onto the screen. Cut it out and staple the screen to the frame - make sure it fits snugly!
2. Tear newspaper into 1-2 inch strips - tear enough for about 2 cups worth.
3. Put newspaper and cup of water into a medium sauce pan and heat until paper falls apart.
4. Transfer mixture to blender/food processor and blend until smooth. Add water if mixture gets too thick.
5. Once mixture is smooth and cool, remove bit by bit from blender and place it on the screen. Spread it flat over the screen.
6. If using flower pedals, leaves, or anything like that, now is the time to press them into the paper goop.
7. Squish as much water out of the goop as you can by pressing gently on it.
8. Set screen aside to dry.
9. Once dry, gently peel paper off of frame and viola! You've made your own paper!

Recycled Paper Beads

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Cut paper into 1" wide, 4" long strips.
2. Spread glue over 2 inches of the strip of paper.
3. Roll the paper from unglued end towards glued end, being sure to leave a hole in the middle for string.
4. Keep going until you make as many beads as you or your kids want to make, or until they have enough to make a bracelet or necklace.

Closing

Congratulate them on learning how they can do their part to protect our planet!

Enjoy your regular Closing.

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