LifeSmarts
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LifeSmarts U Environment Lesson
Protect the Planet Lesson Plan

Overview
There are few steps an individual can take to make a serious difference to the environment, but when individuals come together to practice "going green," the results are significant.

Lesson Objectives:
- Review simple steps an individual can take to protect the environment and how these actions have a broad impact when practiced by many people

Time:
1 class period

Background:
Our rapidly changing environment needs help to preserve it for future generations. The current population can assist by using fewer resources, producing less trash and living more lightly on the Earth. Awareness is the first step in changing attitudes and behaviors and taking simple steps to "go green."

Materials:
- Vocabulary
- Vocabulary Key
- Videocast
- Activity: *Protect the Planet Because…*
- Activity Key: *Protect the Planet Because…*

Procedures
1. Distribute *Vocabulary* Worksheet
2. Discuss and define vocabulary with students
3. View *Protect our Planet*
4. Distribute the Activity – *Protect the Planet Because…* Assign students one to three statements to research
5. Allow students time to research and write their findings.
6. Discuss student findings for all statements, emphasizing how simple changes made by many have the power to affect the environment in a positive manner.

Discussion Questions:
1. Many places in Europe require merchants to recycle product packaging for the consumer. What are the advantages and disadvantages of this legislation?
2. What is the most wasteful packaging you have seen? What could one person do to help eliminate wasteful packaging?
3. Do you think teenagers are more concerned about the environment than their parent's generation? Explain your answer

Extension
1. Create posters from the research information you learned from the Activity – *Protect the Planet Because…* Place the posters in prominent places around your school or community.
2. Investigate e-waste and recycling sites in your community.

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