

LifeSmarts U Consumer Lesson Laundry 101

Lesson Description

Walking down the detergent aisle at the grocery store, the shelves display dozens of brightly colored containers of laundry detergent and additives. The process of doing laundry has changed, evolving into a multi-billion dollar industry based on chemistry. It often mystifies the average consumer and most consumers know little about the science of laundry.

Lesson Objectives

- Summarize the laundry process, including the appropriate use of detergents.
- Review textile care labels and symbols.

Materials

- [Content Vocabulary](#)
- [Content Vocabulary Student Worksheet](#)
- Video: [How to Wash Your Clothes Like a Scientist](#) by [Consumer Reports](#) (5 minutes)
- PowerPoint Presentation: [Laundry 101](#)
- [Rapid Research: Laundry 101 Student Worksheet](#)
- [Laundry Pictogram Activity](#)

Steps

Day One

1. Distribute Content Vocabulary Student Worksheet. Review and discuss terms.
2. Ask students to share their own experiences with laundry disasters.
3. View the Video: [How to Wash Your Clothes Like a Scientist](#) by [Consumer Reports](#)
4. Introduce the concept of laundry as a process which uses “Sinners Circle”-time temperature, mechanical action, and chemistry.
5. Begin the PowerPoint Presentation: *Laundry 101*.

Day Two

1. Finish the PowerPoint Presentation: *Laundry 101*.
2. Assign one of the following
 - Rapid Research: Dosing Detergents Student Worksheet *or*
 - Laundry Pictogram Student ActivityAllow work time and discuss results with the entire group.
3. Use the Discussion Prompts to extend learning.

Discussion Prompts

1. Brainstorm the steps individuals can take to make the laundry process more eco-friendly.
2. "To sort, or not to sort..." Does laundry really need to be sorted? Defend your answer.
3. Attitudes toward clothing might influence attitudes toward the laundry process. How?
4. Fast clothing is a trend that promotes clothing as readily disposable. Make a case for or against this trend.
5. What patterns did you notice when looking at garment care symbols?
6. Apply Sinners Circle to other cleaning tasks.
7. How might learning about the laundry process save you money?

Key: Laundry Pictogram Activity

1. E
2. O
3. K
4. H
5. N
6. I
7. L
8. C
9. B
10. F
11. A
12. D

Lesson Extensions

- [Use the Laundry 101 LifeSmarts U Kahoot](#)
- [Use the Laundry 101 LifeSmarts Quizlet](#)