#### EARTH DAY EVERY DAY

A Middle School Curriculum on Recycling

## RECYCLING IN ALASKA PRE-TEST

**Directions**: These are questions you may not know. Try your best! You will review your answers to the pre-test at the end of the lesson to see if your answers are correct. You will need a calculator for the math questions.

- 1. Which country has become the largest consumer of paper and paper products per person in the world?
  - a. Spain b. Mexico
  - c. China d. United States
- 2. Why are forests important to Alaska?
  - a. Trees provide habitat for wildlife
  - b. Trees slow down climate change by storing carbon dioxide
  - c. Trees sustain our logging industry, bringing money into the state
  - d. All of the above
- 3. Sand is used to make which of these items?
  - a. Plasticb. Glassc. Paperd. Gold
- 4. Can you recycle glass in your community?
  - a. Yes
  - b. No
- 5. Metal:
  - a. is strong and useful for making tools
  - b. is a natural resource found in Alaska
  - c. can be recycled multiple times because it does not lose its important properties in the process
  - d. all of the above
- 6. Metals such as aluminum and steel can be recycled over and over again because they do not lose any strength or quality in the recycling process. Below is a list of the six simple steps to recycling metal. Draw a line to match the steps with the recycling process:

First step The metal is made into a new product

Second step The consumer places used metal in recycling bin

Third step The melted metal is hardened into a block called an ingot

Fourth Step The ingot is rolled into a thin sheet

Fifth Step A recycling company melts the metal with similar metals

Sixth Step The consumer buys a metal product

7. Plastic is:

a. made from sand b. found naturally in Alaska's forests

c. made from by-products of oil d. made from gold

8. How many millions of tons of plastic are thrown away each year?

a. 12 million tons
b. 30 million tons
c. 6 million tons
d. 122 million tons

9. What percentage of plastic waste is recovered for recycling?

a. 2% b. 36% c. 9% d. 40%

- 10. What types of plastic can you recycle in your community?
- 57 Unit 3

Name	Date:

# HOMEWORK: Sorting Trash

#### **DIRECTIONS**

Go through your trash. With an adult supervising, list what is recyclable in your community and what is definitely trash. Draw a picture of at least four of your items in each category. If there are items you are unsure about, put them below.

Recycle	Garbage
Undecided	

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Name Date:
RECYCLING IN ALASKA WORKSHEET
1: Alaska provides many natural resources. We will be talking about four in particular - oil, sand, wood, and minerals. List some common every-day products that are made from:
Oil:
Sand:
Wood:
Minerals:
2: Do you know the meaning of the term metal?
3: Can you list some of the metals that might be found in here in Alaska?
4: Brainstorm reasons for recycling metals.
5: In the US, metal recycling programs mainly target aluminum and steel. Why not other metals, like gold, silver, brass, and copper?
6: How many electronic devices can you count in your classroom?
7: What (if any) electronic recycling opportunities exist in your community?
8: Computers are everywhere. Do you think this reduces paper waste?

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9: Hundreds of everyday items have their roots in Alaska's forests. Can you name two common items?  1)
2)
10: Why are the forests important to Alaska?
11: To log or mine we first have to build roads out of and
12: What important everyday item started out as sand?
13: What (if any) glass recycling opportunities exist in your community?
14: Brainstorm everyday items that started life as oil.
15: Brainstorm ways to reduce or reuse plastic bags and other one-time use plastics.
16: What (if any) plastic recycling opportunities exist in your community?
17: Name an organization that is dedicated to eliminating litter and increasing economically viable recycling in Alaska.
18: Did anything about our discussion today surprise you?