

TRUE OR FALSE?

Test your memory! After watching the video: "Why Recycle", circle "True" or "False" for the following statements. If you circle "False," correct the statement.

1. The U.S. uses up resources as if there were five planets worth of resources available.

True False

4. The largest industrial demand for water comes from the production of paper from virgin pulp or trees.

True False

2. Recycling an aluminum can saves up to 25% of the energy it takes to make an aluminum can from its virgin source, bauxite ore.

True False

5. Recycling creates 2x more jobs than putting items in the trash.

True False

3. If we recycled all of our aluminum and glass, we wouldn't need to extract the limited resources, bauxite ore and silica, ever again.

True False

6. Only 30% of waste in the U.S. can be recycled or composted.

True False

What's Your Best Guess?

In the video, "Why Recycle", we learned that recycling 1 ton of plastic (2000 lbs.) saves:

- 5,774 kilowatt hours of energy
- 16.3 barrels of oil
- 30 cubic yards of landfill space

Take your best guess at what these savings mean in your life – and don't forget to check your answers on the next page!

1. 5,774 kwh of energy is about the amount of energy used by an average home in the U.S. for:

1 month 3 months 6 months

2. 16.3 barrels of oil is enough oil to fuel the average American car for:

6 months 12 months 16 months

3. 30 cubic yards is equivalent to the size of:

10 washer machines 40 washer machines 60 washer machines

check your answers on the next page!

Answers to True or False Activity

1. The U.S. uses up resources as if there were five planets worth of resources available.
TRUE
2. Recycling an aluminum can saves up to 25% of the energy it takes to make an aluminum can from its virgin source, bauxite ore.
FALSE – Recycling an aluminum can saves up to 95% of the energy it takes to make a can from bauxite
3. If we recycled all of our aluminum and glass, we wouldn't need to extract the limited resources, bauxite ore and silica, ever again.
TRUE - aluminum and glass can be recycled indefinitely
4. The largest industrial demand for water comes from the production of paper from virgin pulp or trees.
TRUE
5. Recycling creates 2x more jobs than putting items in the trash.
FALSE – Recycling creates an average of TEN times more jobs per ton than landfilling.
6. Only 30% of waste in the U.S. can be recycled or composted.
FALSE – The U.S. could recycle or compost 75% or more of our waste, but nationally, we only recycle and compost about 35%)



Answers to Take Your Best Guess Activity

1. According to the U.S. Energy Information Administration, the average American home uses 909 kilowatt hours of electricity each month. **The equivalent of 5,774 kwh saved by recycling one ton of plastic is the use of an average American home for 6 MONTHS.**
2. The average American driver, in a car made after 2007, consumes about 12 barrels per year. **The equivalent of 16 barrels of oil saved by recycling one ton of plastic could fuel a car for 16 MONTHS.**
3. A cubic yard is the volume of a cube with the length, width and height of one yard (3 feet or 36 inches). To help you picture this, the volume of two washing machines is about one cubic yard. **Saving 30 cubic yards of space in a landfill by recycling 1 ton of plastic is equivalent to the space 60 washing machines.**