

# RECYCLING BADGE

## AN INSTANT MEETING FOR GUIDES FROM THE BC PROGRAM COMMITTEE

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Take advantage of some fun games and activities to teach the girls the importance of recycling and protecting our limited resources on this planet.

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### Meeting Plan

5 min:	Arrival
10 min:	Horseshoe and Opening
30-40 min:	Guest Speaker
10-15 min:	Trash Relay
10-15 min:	Create an Activity Using Recycled Materials
20-25 min:	Reduce Reuse Recycle
10-15 min:	Trash to Treasures
5 min:	Closing - Taps

#### Program Connections

**Recycling**

**Beyond You: Environment #6**

*120 minute meeting. Approximate activity times shown.*

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### Meeting Plan

At the meeting prior to “Recycling Badge” Night:

- Invite a guest from the Utilities Plant or Regional District to come talk about waste management in your community and the positive effects of recycling and composting.
- Review the badge requirements with the presenter prior to the meeting.
- Have a box of Girl Guide Cookies ready as a thank you gift for the guest speaker.

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### Meeting Supplies

- |  |  |                                       |
|--|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> blue boxes for relay    | <input type="checkbox"/> scissors (several pair)         | <input type="checkbox"/> fabric paint |
| <input type="checkbox"/> items for recycling bin | <input type="checkbox"/> black markers                   | <input type="checkbox"/> safety pins  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> masking tape            | <input type="checkbox"/> plain cotton bags for each girl |                                       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> string                  |  |                                       |

## Arrival

Greet the girls as they arrive to the meeting. Introduce the guest speaker.

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## Opening

Have your usual meeting opening, e.g. have the girls collect the weekly dues and take attendance in their patrols. Have the Guides sing the Guide Marching Song or the Guide Law Song as they do Horseshoe.

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## Guest Speaker

The Guest Speaker will give a 30 to 45-minute talk about composting, recycling, over-packaged products or other relevant topics. Ideally the presentation will have hands-on activities and photos.

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## Trash Relay

### Directions:

1. Place the three bins (recycling, trash and compost bins) at the other end of the field 10 metres away.
2. Divide the trash so each team has an equal sized pile. Place the piles about halfway between the start line and the bins.
3. Divide the girls into 3 or 4 teams depending on the size of the group. There should be at least 3-4 girls in each team for the relay race. Have the teams all line up at the start line.
4. Give each team a pair of rubber gloves for the game
5. When the whistle blows, the first girl puts on the pair of gloves and runs to the trash pile. She should pick up one item and then run to the end and place the item in the appropriate bin. She should then run back to her team and give the next girl in line the gloves. The relay race continues until all the trash has been sorted. At the end of the game, discuss the sorting of the trash.

### Supplies

- blue recycling bins
- garbage bins
- compost bins
- rubber gloves
- trash (recyclable items, paper products)
- whistle

## Create an Activity Using Recycled Materials

### Directions:

1. Girls break into small groups to create an activity using recycled items from the blue bins.
2. They are allowed to use masking tape and string (recycled) in addition to the recycling items.
3. Ideas include mini-golf (balls of wadded up paper and a golf club cut out of sturdy card board), ring toss over milk bottles (rings are newsprint twisted), target practice and so on.
4. Guides will amaze you! Rotate the groups through each activity.

### Supplies

- recycling blue bins
- masking tape
- string
- trash (recyclable items, paper products)

## Reuse, Reduce, Recycle (Choose one of these activities.)

Have you ever wondered what to do with old pillowcases and T-shirts that do not fit anymore? Here are some fun ideas to turn those two things into reusable tote bags, shoe bags, book bags, and garment bags. Some of these transformations do not require any sewing.

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### Pillowcase Laundry Bag

Make a reusable drawstring laundry bag for camp using an old pillowcase. This laundry bag could be hung on a doorknob or on a hook. No sewing is required.

#### Directions:

1. Wash and dry an old pillowcase. Use an iron to remove all the wrinkles from it.
2. Locate the seam on the two sides of the pillowcase. On the open end of the pillowcase, use a pair of scissors or a stitch ripper to cut along the seam, starting at about 2 cm from the top edge of the pillowcase.
3. Cut open the seam only on the outside surface of the pillowcase, leaving the seam of the inside surface intact. The hole should be the width of the ribbon that will be used as the drawstring.
4. Repeat Step 3, but this time, starting on the other side of the pillowcase.
5. When you are finished, there should be two holes near the open end on both sides of the pillowcase.
6. Use a pair of scissors to cut two strips of ribbon, each 1m in length.
7. Fasten a safety pin to one end of the ribbon. Feed the safety pin through one hole in the pillowcase along the casing's edge until you end up where you started.

#### Supplies

- safety pin
- old pillowcase
- pair of scissors or a stitch ripper
- 2m of ribbon (width should be at least 2 cm)

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### Pillowcase Garment Bag

Make a garment bag from an old pillowcase to protect nice clothes from dust.

#### Directions

1. Wash and dry an old pillowcase.
2. Use an iron to remove all the wrinkles in it.
3. Fold the pillowcase lengthwise (hotdog style) to locate the centre on the closed end. Use a pair of scissors to cut a small hole at the centre of the pillowcase. The hole should be about 2-3 cm in width so that a hanger could fit through it.
4. Use a needle and some thread to stitch around the hole, reinforcing the opening. This will reinforce the hole.
5. Place a hanger through the hole of the pillowcase, which can now be used as a garment bag.

#### Supplies

- ruler
- hanger
- sewing needle
- old pillowcase
- spool of thread
- permanent marker
- pair of scissors or a stitch ripper

## T-shirt Book Bag

### Directions

1. Wash and dry an old T-shirt. Use an iron to remove all the wrinkles from it. Lay it flat on a table.
2. Use a pair of scissors to cut off the sleeves along the seam. Trim 2 cm along the outside of the neckline.
3. Turn the shirt inside out and lay it flat with the front of the shirt facing up.
4. Use duct tape to tape the inside of the shirt. Do this to the front and then the back of the shirt. This will create a plastic lining to the bag.
5. Use a ruler and measure 3 cm from the bottom of the shirt. Make sure the line is above the original hem. Use a permanent marker to draw a straight line across the bottom of the shirt.
6. Use a stapler and staple the bottom of the shirt together along the drawn line, making sure that the staples are side by side.
7. Place a strip of duct tape over the staple line so that it covers all the staples. Do this to the front and the back of the shirt.
8. Turn the shirt on its side.
9. Use a ruler and measure 5 cm from the corner tip of the shirt. Use a permanent marker to draw a straight line across the bottom.
10. Use a stapler and staple the bottom corner of the shirt. Do this to both sides.
11. Use a pair of scissors to trim off the pointy corner of the shirt about 1 cm below the staple line. Do this for both sides.
12. Place a strip of duct tape over the staple line, making sure it covers all the staples. Do this for the right and the left side of the shirt.
13. Seal off the seams on the two sides of the shirt starting from the armpit down to the bottom using duct tape. This will create a clean finish on the inside.
14. Turn the T-shirt right side out. It is ready to be used a tote bag to carry library books, program books to unit meetings, or anywhere else you might need a bag.

### Supplies

- ruler
- stapler and staples
- duct tape
- old t-shirt
- scissors or a stitch ripper
- permanent marker

## Trash to Treasures (Choose one of these activities.)

Everyone has heard of “recycling”, but have you heard of the newest trend called “upcycling”? Upcycling is taking something that you already have and making it into something else that is fabulous – transforming trash into treasures. Here are some fun ideas.

### Ribbon or Twine Holder

Organize spools of ribbon or twine using a plastic jar. Use at a unit meeting to keep all the ribbon and twine together.

#### Directions:

1. Remove all labels on an old plastic jar.
2. Wash out the plastic jar and lid with soap. Dry with a hand towel.
3. Drill a hole through the centre of the lid. Make sure the hole is big enough to fit the bolt through it. Drill some more holes inside the perimeter of the lid (eg. at the 12 o'clock, 2

### Supplies

- drill
- hex nuts
- washers to fit the bolt
- bolt (at least 15 cm long)
- spools of ribbon or twine
- large plastic jar

o'clock, 4 o'clock, 6 o'clock, 8 o'clock and 10 o'clock positions). Make sure that the holes are big enough to thread the ribbons through each of them.

4. Place the bolt with a hex nut through the centre hole in the lid.
5. On the bottom side of the lid, place a spool of ribbon through the bolt. Then add a washer. Repeat, alternating between the spool of ribbon and the washer. Make sure that there is a washer between each spool to allow each spool of ribbon to move independently of one another.
6. The number of washers will depend on how many spools of ribbon are in the plastic container.
6. Screw on a hex nut to the bottom of the bolt, below the last spool. This will make sure to keep the spools of ribbon in place.

**Suggestions:**

If you do not have a drill, you can use a hammer and a nail to punch the holes through the lid.



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## Ribbon Organizer

Organize spools of ribbon using an old basket. This organizer could be used at a unit meeting. The girls could cut their own ribbons for a craft, and the ribbons would still be organized at the end of the meeting.

**Directions:**

1. Place a wooden dowel through the hole of several spools of ribbon.
2. Insert the one end of a wooden dowel through a hole in the side of a basket.
3. Insert the other end of the dowel on the opposite side of the basket.

**Supplies**

- spools of ribbon
- plastic basket with holes in the sides
- wooden dowels the length of the basket



## Craft Organizer

Make an organizer for felt pens, pencil crayons, glue sticks and other craft supplies for a unit meeting.

### Directions:

1. Clean and wash out large coffee tin and soup cans. Set aside to dry.
2. Use a paint brush to cover the inside and outside of the coffee tin and soup cans with paint.
3. Take a nail and use a hammer to puncture a hole, 1 cm from the top rim of each soup can.
4. Make 5 holes in the coffee tin can using the nail and hammer. The holes should be 1 cm from the rim of the tin.
5. Attach the soup cans to the coffee tin using zap straps.
6. Place felt pens, pencil crayons, scissors in the soup cans to keep things organized at a unit meeting.

### Supplies

- nail
- paint
- hammer
- zap straps
- paint brush
- 5 soup cans
- large coffee tin

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## Bulletin Board

Make a bulletin board for the kitchen or craft room using an old windowpane or an old desk drawer.

### Directions:

1. Cut a corkboard so that it is the same size as an old wooden windowpane. The glass should have been removed. The bulletin board would look nicer if the windowpane was divided into different sections.
2. Place a corkboard behind the windowpane. Use a hammer and nails to attach the corkboard to the windowpane.
3. Hang on the wall and fasten notes and pictures to the new bulletin board.
4. Alternatively, use an old desk drawer. Line the inside of the drawer with a corkboard and some decorative paper on top of the corkboard. Hang the drawer up on the wall and use as a bulletin board.

### Supplies

- hammer and nails
- corkboard
- old desk drawer **or**
- old windowpane without the glass

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## Closing

Close the meeting in your usual way.