

National Spring Clean Youth Pack

The Youth Pack is an educational resource aimed at teachers, youth leaders and young people, which can be downloaded at:

<http://www.nationalspringclean.org/downloads.php?pagetype=materials>

The activities should raise discussion about litter, the problem and solutions as well as develop an awareness of our collective responsibility for litter.

The Activity Cards can be used across the curriculum for English, Mathematics, science and Art and for Social and Personal studies – linking in with the idea of care in the community, moral responsibility and positive action. National Spring Clean is an approved 'Environmental Action Project' for the Civil, Social and Political Education course and an approved 'Day of Action' for the Green-Schools programme.

Examples of the activity cards available in the pack are inserted in your NSC booklet (including on the back of this card).

An Taisce also produce an activity pack for Youth and Uniform Groups which is also available to download at:

<http://www.nationalspringclean.org/downloads.php?pagetype=materials>

The Youth Pack is sponsored by The Wrigley Company Ltd.



Check out the Grot-Spots

- What is litter?
- Do you know where people should put litter?
- Do you have litter bins in your school or youth club?
- Does everyone use litter bins?



Example of a mind map.

Think about your city, town or village. Are there any places that are full of litter?

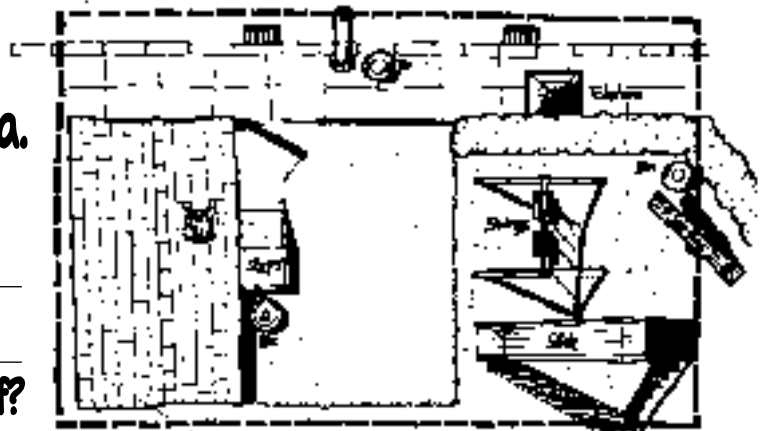
A really messy area can be called a **'grot-spot'**! Talk about litter with your group. Draw a **'mind map'** or **'spider diagram'** with your teacher or leader. Write all your own thoughts and ideas using bright coloured pens to make it really eye catching. Stick your finished **'mind map'** on the wall of your classroom or youth club to remind you of your thoughts.

● Think about:

- Who drops litter?
- Where do you think most litter is dropped?
- When is litter dropped?

Ask your teacher or leader to photocopy a street map of your area.

- Can you find your street?
- Where is your school/youth club?
- Are there any grot-spots you can think of?



Example of a map.

Now draw a simple map of your school or youth club following the example given. Ask your teacher or leader to help. Are there any grot-spots? Colour them in. Be sure you draw in all the litter bins. Colour them in bright yellow.

Note to teachers and leaders:

An Taisce produces a free Clean-Up Kit which accompanies this Youth Pack. It is full of useful information to help you and the children in your care.

The Greenhouse Effect, what is it?

Energy from the Sun affects our planets weather and climate. The Earth absorbs energy from the Sun, but also radiates energy back into space. Much of the energy going back to space is absorbed by "greenhouse" gases in the atmosphere. Because the atmosphere then radiates most of this energy back to the Earth's surface, our planet is warmer than it would be if the atmosphere did not contain these gases. Without this natural "greenhouse effect," temperatures on the earth would be approx. 60°F lower than they are today, and life as we know it would not be possible.

During the last century humans have substantially increased the amount of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere by burning fossil fuels such as coal, natural gas, oil and diesel to power our cars, factories, utilities and appliances. These added gases (mostly CO₂ and methane) are enhancing the natural greenhouse effect, and it is possible that they are contributing to an increase in global average temperature and related climate changes

A Carbon Footprint is a measure of the impact that human activities have on the environment, in terms of the amount of greenhouse gases produced, measured in units of carbon dioxide.

By recycling your aluminium cans, you can reduce your Carbon Footprint!

● Here's How... Recycle.. Recycle.. Recycle

Aluminium cans are 100% recyclable and can be recycled over and over again, without losing quality or value.

Recycling aluminium cans prevents the emission of greenhouse gases more than any other material, when compared to landfilling that same material. **See for yourself**, log on to; <http://www.epa.gov>.

The Carbon Footprint is one of a variety of environmental indicators, which can be used to evaluate the environmental impact of a product or activity.

Other useful links include; www.eaa.be and www.recycle.novelis.com/Recycle

Aluminium Facts

The aluminium recycling process uses only 5% of the energy needed to make an aluminium can from primary production – so by getting into the habit of recycling aluminium beverage cans, you can play a crucial role in the metals lifecycle, help save natural resources and make a 95% energy saving everytime.

A recycled aluminium can saves enough energy to run a television for 3 hours or a 100-watt light bulb for four hours.

Aluminium is the only packaging material that more than covers the cost of collection and reprocessing of itself.

So you see - Recycling aluminium helps conserve and preserve the environment.... and saves money!

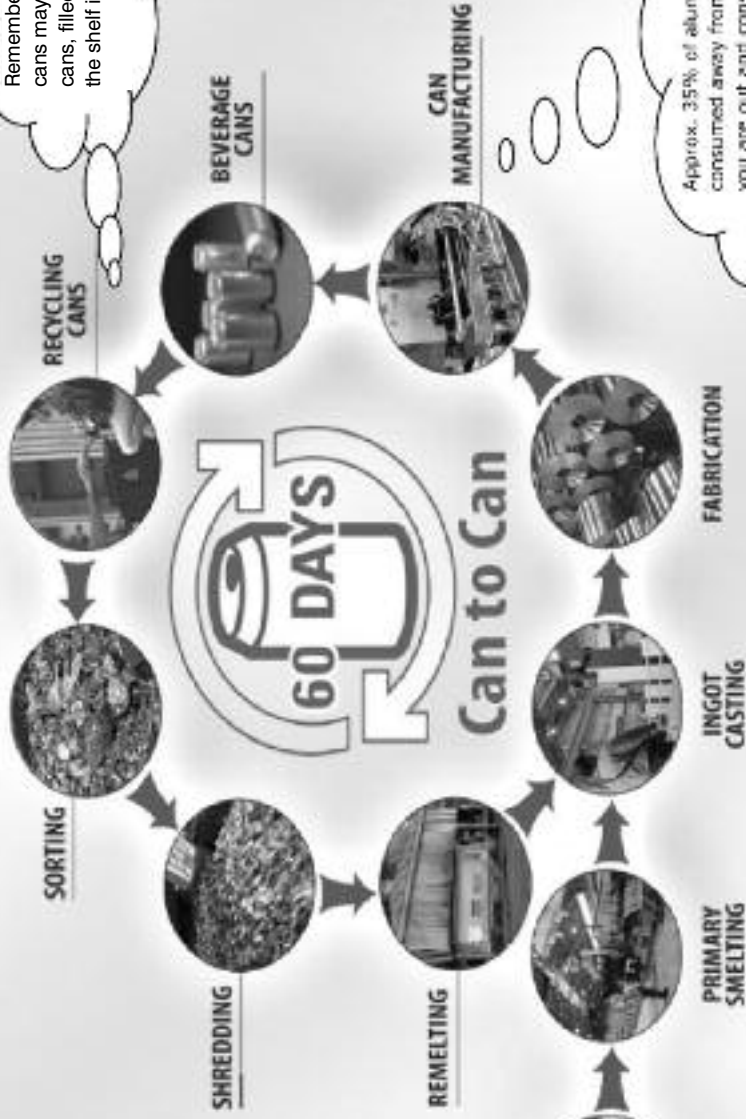


Life Cycle thinking implies that everyone in the whole chain of a product's life cycle, from cradle to grave, has a responsibility and a role to play. Industry's role is to make their products and processes more sustainable by applying cleaner and safer technologies. Consumers take responsibility by making informed decisions about what, how and where they purchase and consume.

Life-Cycle of the Aluminum Can

Aluminium doesn't decompose or break down, so an aluminium can will always be an aluminium can - until someone recycles it!

If we don't recycle our aluminium cans, they have to be made from the natural resource, bauxite, using 20 times more energy.

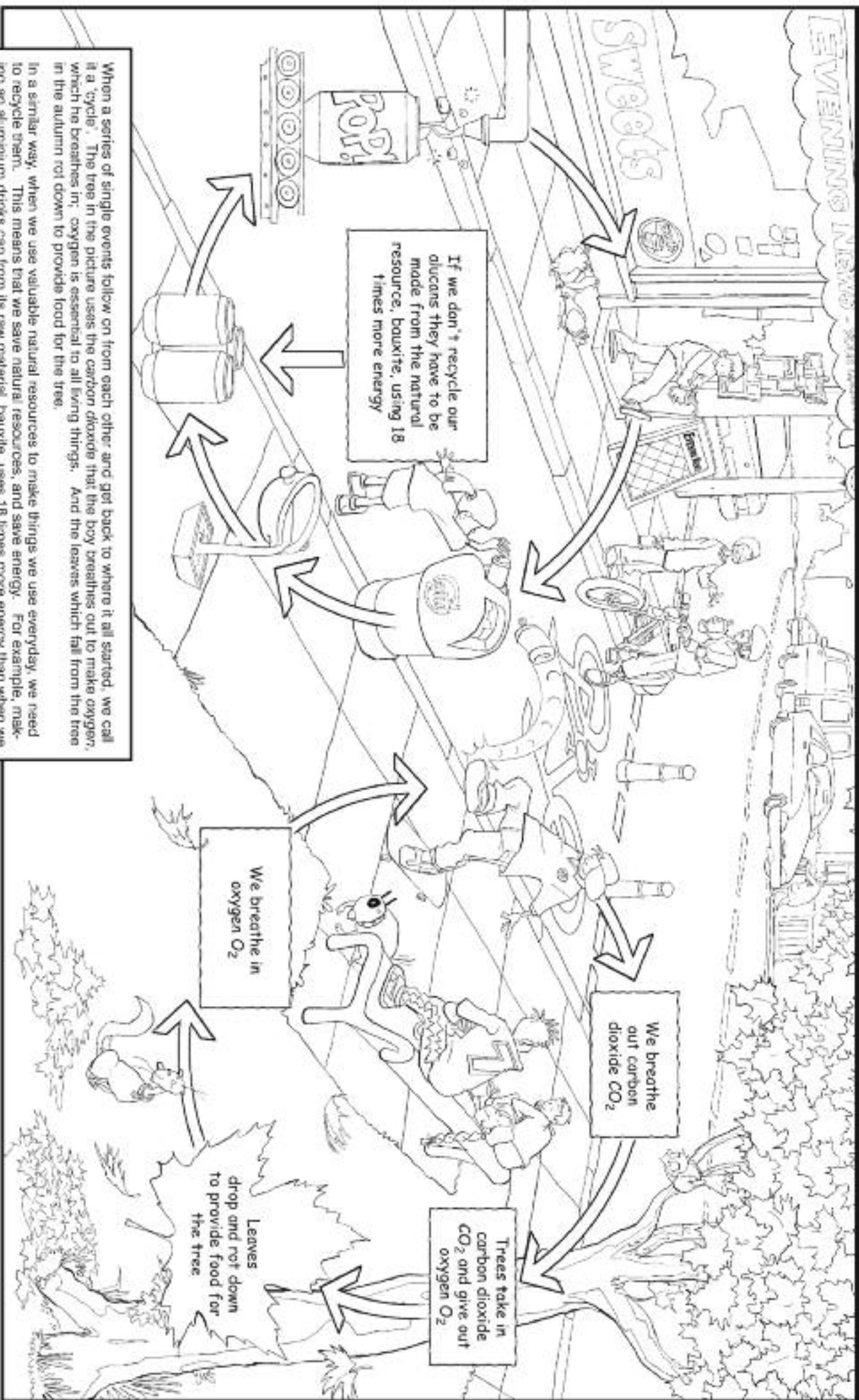


Remember that aluminium cans may be recycled into new cans, filled and put back onto the shelf in just 60 days.

Approx. 35% of aluminium cans are consumed away from the home. If you are out and consume beverages from aluminium cans, please use recycle bins or bring your can home and recycle it sensibly.

It makes sense to recycle aluminium. Weight-per-weight, recycling aluminium cans can prevent the emission of more greenhouse gases than with any other material. In Ireland, we recycle 1 out of 2 aluminium cans which will lead to a saving of 5 metric tonnes of CO₂ per tonne of aluminium (compared to landfilling). If we recycle all of our aluminium cans, we can double this saving. It's easy to make a difference.

See how recycling things made from natural resources links with cycles in nature



ALUMINIUM FACTS

Did you know:

- Aluminium drink cans are the world's most recycled packaging container.
- 3 out of every 4 drinks cans in the world are made of aluminium.
- 6 out of every 10 aluminium cans used have been recycled.
- An easy way of checking if a can is made of aluminium is to use a magnet. If the magnet doesn't stick, it's aluminium.
- Aluminium cans are lighter than steel and the metal is more shiny. If you look at two different types of can you can tell which is the aluminium can by looking for the shinier base.
- Aluminium is the second most used metal on Earth and it is the third most common element in the Earth's crust.
- It is one of the most recyclable materials available. An aluminium beverage can is 100% recyclable.
- An aluminium can will be back on a shop shelf within 60 days of being recycled.
- Making one aluminium can takes as much energy as it takes to recycle 20.
- By recycling one aluminium can you save enough energy to run a television for three whole hours.
- The average house uses 3.2kg of aluminium a year, that's about 208 cans. The average person uses 84 cans.

