

Grown-ups, in *Karung Guni Boy's Guide to Recycling*, we learn about recycling and the value of recycling. Here are some fun recycling activities you can do at home or in school with the kids. There are also links for them to watch on YouTube to learn more about recycling.

As a start, you can reinforce with children the importance of recycling. Here are some things you can explore:

- What is recycling?
 - Take/collect materials that we are going to throw away and put them through a process so that they can be reused again

- What are the things that we can recycle?
 - Paper (magazines, newspaper etc.)
 - Metal
 - Plastic
 - Glass
 - Electrical equipment

- Why is recycling good for the environment?
 - Saves energy
 - Saves natural resources
 - Saves space in landfill

- 3Rs: Reduce, Reuse and Recycle

Suggested activities for kids and their grown ups

1. Scavenger Hunt

Recycling should start from home. Let's go around the house and look for things that we can recycle. Bring a bag and a post-it pad with you and place the items to recycle in it. You can even tag the things around the house that can be recycled when they are empty. Teachers can set this task as homework.

Guide by asking your children questions:

- Can this be recycled?
- What material is it made of?
- Can it be reused?

Sort out the items that can be recycled according to the materials. Talk about the importance of ensuring that the items are clean before recycling them.

Take the items to the recycling bins nearby every week or fortnightly.

2. Make your own Recycling Bins at Home/School

In your home/school, place three containers for collection items to recycle. These will be items commonly used in your home – papers, plastic, metal/glass. Take some time to draw and write your own label. Remember to include the symbol for recycling – three arrows.

3. Recycled Notepads

We can make a notepad for our home/class. We can use this notepad to write important notes/reminders to each other or even the grocery/shopping list.

You will need:

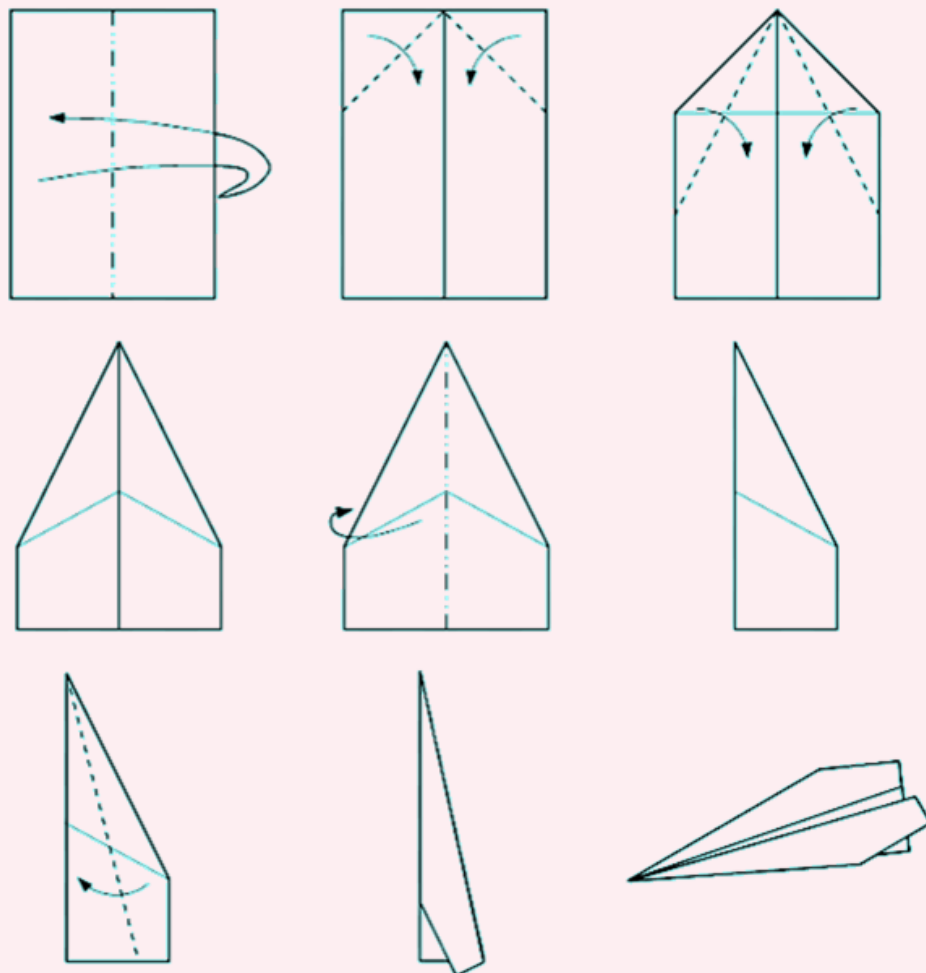
- 20 sheets or used papers (one side used)
- A piece of string, twine or ribbon
- Cardboard
- Marker
- Paper Punch
- Scissors

Follow these steps:

- i. Draw out a heart or any other shape that you like on the cardboard and cut it out
- ii. Use the cardboard and trace the shape on your scrap papers. Cut it out. Repeat the steps for the other papers.
- iii. Punch a hole in the same place, slide the string/ribbon/twine through the holes and tie them together.
- iv. Your notepad is complete!
- v. You can make another one for your neighbour or your friend. Write a message on the front of the notepad.

4. Paper Aeroplane

Let's make paper aeroplanes with the recycled papers we have collected in our home. Try to use different types of papers – newspaper, drawing paper, flyers from the mail, magazines etc. Follow the instruction below to make the aeroplane. Now, let's see which type of paper is the most suitable to make aeroplanes. Have a challenge and see whose plane can fly the furthest.



5. Music Instruments

Make your very own musical instruments with the plastic bottles that you have collected. Remember that you will need to clean and air dry the bottles before using them. Choose different things to put inside your plastic bottles to create different types of songs. You may even want to decorate the bottles but drawing on them with markers or pasting coloured papers on them.

6. Donate old items (clothes and toys)

Take some time to look into your wardrobe and toy collections. Talk to your child about donating to the poor and needy. Instead of throwing away toys that they are done playing with and clothes that they can no longer wear, think about giving it to someone else who can reuse these items. Help your children in decided which toys and clothes they would like to donate. Place in a box and send them to the donation centre together. Here are a few places you can donate your old clothes and/or toys to:

- Green Square: <https://www.greensquare.com.sg/>
- MINDS: <http://www.minds.org.sg/Shop.html>
- Salvation Army: https://www.salvationarmy.org/singapore/dik_fts

7. Story Time

Here are some storybooks about recycling on Youtube

- *I Can Save the Earth* by Alison Inches and Viviana Garofoli
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2Mkwhe6L_OBo
- *Michael Recycle* by Ellie Bethel & Illustrated by Alexandra Colombo
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p.JweMxEhjIU>
- *It's Earth Day* by Mercer Meyer
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_GqM-U5dCsQ
- *Miss Fox's Class Goes Green – Earth Day Story*
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R-UNKPdpwTg>

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