



Semaine canadienne de réduction des déchets

Quizzes and games to teach students about waste reduction

The Coded Message Quiz – Answers

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$\begin{array}{r} \text{H382} \\ -90 \\ \hline 292 \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} \text{I211} \\ +562 \\ \hline 773 \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} \text{L599} \\ -212 \\ \hline 387 \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} \text{N717} \\ -512 \\ \hline 205 \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} \text{P477} \\ +319 \\ \hline 796 \end{array}$
$\begin{array}{r} \text{R 72} \\ +199 \\ \hline 271 \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} \text{S671} \\ +213 \\ \hline 884 \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} \text{T841} \\ -700 \\ \hline 141 \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} \text{U132} \\ +649 \\ \hline 781 \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} \text{W 99} \\ +411 \\ \hline 510 \end{array}$

R E D U C I N G W A S T E
 271 430 979 781 389 773 205 802 510 588 884 141 430

H E L P S T H E E A R T H
 292 430 387 796 884 141 292 430 430 588 271 141 292

Measuring Your Green Quotient Quiz

Questions

The following quiz appeared in the **Toronto Life Magazine "2001 Environmental Guide"**. Determine your "Green Quotient" and those of your friends, family, colleagues or students. If you cringe at the effort in being eco-friendly, save yourself the trouble. Just by going about your daily business, you might be more green than you think you are. Take our quiz, score yourself, and find out if there's an environmentalist lurking inside.

1. When the batteries in your flashlight die, you

- a) stick them back in the recharger
- b) toss them in the kitchen garbage
- c) set them aside for the next trip to the depot
- d) smile smugly because your flashlight is solar-powered

2. While brushing your teeth, you

- a) turn the water off
- b) run just a trickle of water
- c) blast the water out of the faucet, because it clears the pipes

3. In the summer, you water the lawn (If you don't have a lawn, pick what you would do)

- a) four or more times a week, just a bit
- b) two or three times a week, a decent amount
- c) once a week, a good soaking
- d) no extra watering - it can fend for itself!

4. If you saw, or when you do see, dandelions peeking out from your lawn, you say

- a) "Honey, hand me that DDT"
- b) "Get the digger - I gotta get me some roots"
- c) "Doesn't bother me"

5. Grass clippings at your house or building are

- a) bagged and left at the curb on garbage day
- b) raked up and put in the composter
- c) left lying all over the lawn

6. You own which of the following things

- a) fluorescent light bulbs
- b) composter
- c) cloth shopping bags
- d) post-consumer paper goods
- e) blue box
- f) grey box

- g) low-flow showerhead
- h) green cleaning products

7. You actually use which of the following things

- a) fluorescent light bulbs
- b) composter
- c) cloth shopping bags
- d) post-consumer paper goods
- e) blue box
- f) grey box
- g) low-flow showerhead
- h) green cleaning products

8. Spring azure, pearl crescent and buckeye are

- a) butterflies
- b) heritage-seed daisy varieties
- c) milk-paint colour names
- d) environmentally friendly fish lures

9. Households in Canada generate a total of approximately how much garbage and recyclable stuff every year?

- a) 50 million tonnes
- b) 100 million tonnes
- c) over 150 million tonnes

10. Of that amount, how much does recycling and composting divert from landfill?

- d) 5 per cent
- e) 10 per cent
- f) 25 per cent

11. Let's say you replace a standard 75 watt light bulb with a 20 watt compact fluorescent bulb. Over the life of the bulb, you'll save

- a) \$25
- b) \$40
- c) \$55

12. The average household produces how much toxic waste (paints, pesticides, cleaners, prescriptions, batteries) per year?

- a) 35 litres
- b) 50 litres
- c) 85 litres

13. Every person in Canada uses how much water a day?

- a) 150 litres in winter; 200 litres in summer
- b) 200 litres in winter; 275 litres in summer
- c) 350 litres in winter; 450 litres in summer

Measuring Your Green Quotient Quiz – Answers

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1. When the batteries in your flashlight die

- a) 8 points
- b) 0
- c) 8 points
- d) 10 points

Never throw batteries in the garbage! That's pure poison going right into the ground, with no chance at special treatment. Save them up for local Environment Days, or take them to a responsible retailer like Battery Plus, which collects batteries for recycling. Be sure to express your appreciation so they keep up this good practice.

2. While brushing your teeth, you

- a) 10 points
- b) 5 points
- c) 0 - you wish to clear the pipes, call a plumber!

3. In the summer, you water the lawn

- a) 0
- b) 0
- c) 10 points
- d) 10 points

A good one-inch soaking of the lawn once a week is best, particularly with a soaker hose, and early in the morning. This will minimize evaporation and encourage root development.

4. When you see dandelions on a lawn

- a) 0 - in fact, use of any pesticide in this situation earns you 0 points
- b) 10 points
- c) 5 points

While it's admirable that you don't reach for the weed killer, if you allow dandelions to thrive and go to seed on your lawn, they'll spread over to other lawns whose owners might just use some really horrible chemicals to stop them.

5. Grass clippings are

- a) 0
- b) 3 points
- c) 10 points

In this case, laziness rules: leave the clippings where they fall so they'll return nutrients to the soil.

6. You own which of the following things

a) through h): 5 points for each

7. You actually use which of the following things

a) through h): 10 points for each

8. Spring azure, pear crescent and buckeye

a) 10 points

b) 2 points - wrong answer, but points for knowing about heritage-seed programs

c) 2 points - wrong again, but points for recognizing milk paint as eco-friendly

d) 0

You can attract these butterflies by avoiding synthetic pesticides and by planting the right things.

Contact the North American Native Plant Society. **9. Households generate how much yearly?**

a) 0

b) 10 points

c) 0

10. How much is diverted from landfill?

b) 0

b) 0

c) 10 points

Canada's goal is to divert 50 per cent of all residential waste from disposable by 2006. Help by recycling, which saves natural resources and energy, and reduces the need for landfill.

11. Switch a standard 75 watt light bulb with a 20 watt compact fluorescent bulb

a) 0

b) 0

c) 10 points

BONUS: a whopping 10 points for every fluorescent bulb in your home! New compact fluorescents save up to 75 per cent in energy consumption and last 10 times longer than incandescents.

12. The average household produces how much toxic waste

a) 10 points

b) 0

c) 0

Don't get too confident about a paltry 35 litres per household per year - that's about 80,000,000 litres in Toronto alone! Toxic waste, when disposed of incorrectly, ends up in the lake and then - in a diluted form - in your drinking water.

13. How much water used per day

a) 0

b) 0

c) 10 points

Canadians use up to 350 litres of water in the winter, and in the summer, with garden watering and washing cars, it's 450 litres per day. That's too much stress on overburdened water and sewage treatment plants.

Scoring

0-50: Oh dear. You must read this entire magazine, take notes and really make an effort to inject something green into your lifestyle. The fact you took this quiz at all is a hopeful sign.

51-100: Small steps are being made, but we suspect you're in a rut. Check who to call, for the Environmental Day nearest you and go. You'll get tons of inspiration.

101-150: Closet environmentalist. Let yourself move to the next level - come out. Give money to green charities. Join a neighbourhood group. Find out more about the environment.

151-250: Proud to be green. You're doing so many things right! Congratulations. Now share your beliefs with others. Join an environmental organization. Educate others.

251-plus: You could become a contributor to this magazine! You are one savvy, committed individual whose efforts should be praised and emulated.

Waste Reduction Quiz

Questions

1. For every tonne of virgin paper produced, how many trees are consumed:

- a) 1
- b) 3
- c) 17
- d) 36

2. Making recycled paper consumes how much energy compared to making 1 tonne of virgin paper.

- a) 60% more
- b) the same amount
- c) 60% less

3. Which of the following is a hazardous waste:

- a) paint
- b) batteries
- c) oil
- d) all of the above

4. Hazardous waste can be potentially harmful to:

- a) air
- b) water
- c) land
- d) all of the above

5. The 3Rs of effective waste management are: _____, _____, and _____.

6. Archaeologists have been able to read the headlines of 40 year old newspapers dug up from landfills because very little decomposition occurs under landfill conditions.

True or false? _____

7. What percentage of the Canadian waste stream is packaging:

- a) very little
- b) 30%
- c) 50%
- d) almost all of it

8. The largest component of the average Canadian's waste is:

- a) kitchen & yard waste
- b) pop cans
- c) plastics
- d) newspapers

Waste Reduction Quiz – Answers

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Answer: c) 17

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Answer: d) all of the above

5. The 3Rs of effective waste management are: REDUCE, REUSE, and RECYCLE.

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Answer: d) newspapers

Newspaper Sleuth

Waste is a part of almost everything we do. For the next week, look through your local or national newspaper to discover waste management topics.

Be creative and look in every section of the newspaper such as the letters to the editor, comics, event listings, editorials, business, travel, entertainment... you may even find something in the classified ads!

Assignment: Write a report or make a display of the common themes, which run through some or all of the articles.

Autobiography of a Package

The package that contains your juice and cereal goes through many stages before it reaches your home. Choose one of the packages you have received in the past week and make a collage or drawing of each stage in the life of your package.

What happens to the package when you are finished using the product inside? What are the impacts to air, water and land at each stage of the package life?

List some ways you can reduce environmental impacts of packaging. Are there alternatives to this packaging?