



No More Junk Mail

1. Have each student save their junk mail at home for one week and bring it to school. Examine the types of mail being received. Discuss where the majority of the junk mail comes from and why it is being sent.
2. Have your class stack up all the paper in the recycling bin at the end of every day. When the stack is approximately 15cm high, mark that paper. For every 15cm of paper being recycled, the class is preventing one new tree from being cut down. Monitor over a week, month, semester or year to see the impact of recycling efforts!
3. Have students' families consider a "no junk mail" sign for their house.
4. Students are inundated with ads for products, particularly food, each day, sometimes even at school. Consumption of products is an excellent issue to discuss with children of all ages:
 - a. Have students make a list of items they desire (this works well before the holiday season). Ask them to try and articulate why they would like these items. Ask questions such as "what is it you like most about this item?" The goal is to have students differentiate between need and want. Ask them whether they think they will still want the item in a day, month or year.
 - b. Ask students to identify ways in which they may acquire items. Do they need to save for it? Will they do chores for it? Will they trade another student for it?
 - c. Ask students to identify where their item would go after they are finished with it. Also have them identify where the materials for the item would come from and how they are produced.