Recycling Data Form

Instructions

1. In each of the categories on the following two pages, randomly choose 10 different products to see if they contain recycled materials or are recyclable. The recycled materials may be in the product itself or in the packaging. Also record the percentage of recycled material if the information is available. This information is typically found on labels or on the bottom of containers.

Note: Steel and glass products typically contain recycled material and are recyclable, though the label may not state this.

2. After completing the chart, determine the averages for each column. Example: if 5 of the 10 items were recyclable the average is .5 or 50% recyclable. (Average = the number of "yes" items divided by the total number of products. Then multiply by 100 to get percent.)

3. The information below about plastic container codes may be helpful when completing the first section on plastic products.

Recyclable Material

Recycled Material

PLASTIC CONTAINER CODES							
Code	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Abbreviation	PETE or PET	HDPE	V	LDPE	PP	PS	OTHER
Full Name	polyethylene terephthalate	high-density polyethylene	vinyl	low-density polyethylene	polypropylene	polystyrene	other resins or a mixture of resin types
Can Be Transparent	yes	no	yes	no	yes	yes	yes
Typical Containers	soft drink, instant coffee	milk, laundry detergent	liquid dish soap, peanut butter	grocery bags, coffee can lids	deli tubs, bottle caps, straws	foam cups, trays, egg cartons	catsup and syrup bottles

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Plastic Products				
Product	Type of Plastic (number/name)	Contains Recycled Materials (yes/no)	Recyclable (yes/no)	Recycled in My Community (yes/no)
Average				

Cardboard and Paper Products				
Product	Contains Recycled Materials (yes/no)	Percent Recycled Material	Recyclable (yes/no)	Recycled in My Community (yes/no)
Average				

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Metal Cans				
Product	Contains Recycled Materials (yes/no)	Percent Recycled Material	Recyclable (yes/no)	Recycled in My Community (yes/no)
Average				

Glass Products				
Product	Color (clear, brown, green)	Contains Recycled Materials (yes/no)	Recyclable (yes/no)	Recycled in My Community (yes/no)
Average				