

"SHOPPING FOR THE ENVIRONMENT"

YOU WILL LEARN...

- * How to select products which are the least damaging to the environment.

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

When choosing what to buy at the store, people make choices for many different reasons. Some always choose the least expensive item, while others (for whatever reasons) always choose the most expensive. Some look for the best value, some a certain brand, and still others will consistently choose the blue one.

It takes a lot of water to make natural and man-made products. But the water in man-made processes makes it very polluted. One of the biggest man-made products in our lives is plastic. It takes a lot of water and oil to make plastic. Oil is a nonrenewable resource buried deep in the earth. It took millions of years to make oil and when it is all used up it will be gone forever.

We use oil to make most of the things we use in our life. Plastics are in your toys, clothes, cars, food containers and the packages they come in. Plastics make our life convenient, but they are creating a terrible environmental problem. When we throw plastics away they don't go away. Scientists estimate that it will take a million years to evolve microorganisms capable of breaking down plastic.

Water Wizards can make a difference. You can learn how to make shopping decisions that are "best for the environment" and teach your family and friends how to do it too. It isn't always easy. Items which are best for the environment, are not always the "coolest" or "prettiest", so your decision may be difficult to make.

DO THIS...

You are going shopping to choose items "best for the environment." Listen to your teacher for instructions.

WATER WIZARD, CAN YOU TELL ME...

- * Five things made from or with oil?
- * Two ways to use less plastic
- * How does it feel to make a choice "best for the environment" if it is not the product you really want?

WATER WIZARD WORKOUT

CIRCLE THE HIDDEN WORD	BEST	CONSERVE
T Z S E M Y R P P O H S	STOP	ENVIRONMENT
S U A A C W I Z A R D O	PLASTIC	NATURAL
E N V I R O N M E N T N	OIL	CHOOSE
B P E E U D N Q F A G O	SAVE	WATER
C T O Y S C T S V T W I	WIZARD	PACKAGE
H A I W E H R N E U B S	TOYS	DECISION
O P L A S T I C K R L I		
O X I T R Z J N T A V C		
S M O E O W D U M L I E		