

Summer 2020

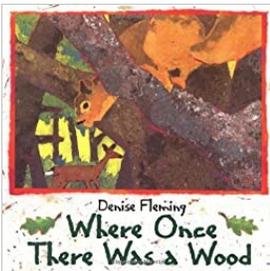
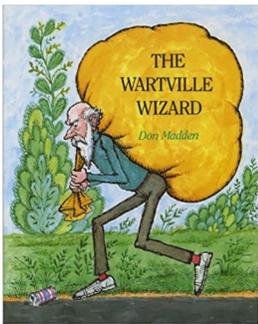
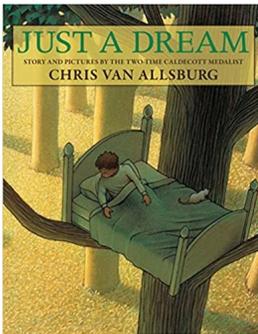
Issue 13

# SWIFTlet

Soil and Water Information for Teachers: lessons on environmental themes

## WASTE NOT, WANT NOT

### LITERACY CONNECTIONS



Franklin Soil and Water Conservation District  
Creating Conservation Solutions for Over 70 Years

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When we hear the word hazardous, we usually think of danger or potential harm. Most of us would guess that motor oil and lawn chemicals are dangerous and should not be put into the trash. However, do you know that some household cleaners and house paint fall into that category as well? These items are considered hazardous because they are dangerous to the environment.

When dealing with potentially hazardous products, the way we dispose of them makes a difference. Hazardous waste disposal is essential for both human and environmental health. Small amounts of hazardous waste being released may not cause an immediate impact, but over time, small releases have the potential to contaminate the environment and have serious health implications.

Adults in your family can determine what items are considered hazardous waste by looking at the labels to see what is labeled as poison, corrosive, toxic, flammable or Keep Out of Reach of Children/Pets. Examples of common household hazardous wastes include lawn fertilizers, pesticides, pool chemicals, cleaners, paint and used fluids (oil, gas, antifreeze) from engine maintenance. Encourage the adults in your family to take an inventory of potentially hazardous products that have accumulated in your home and ask them to decide what needs to be properly disposed of and what can be safely stored.

In Franklin County, the best way for residents to dispose of these household wastes is through mobile collection events scheduled within different communities or by dropping these items off at the **Solid Waste Authority of Central Ohio (SWACO)**.

Illegal dumping is a crime and can be reported confidentially at **itsacrime.org**. Additional information and questions can be directed to the Franklin County Environmental Court through their **website**.

### Did You Know?

According to the Environmental Protection Agency, the average home can accumulate as much as 100 pounds of hazardous waste! That's 100 pounds of household chemicals with labels that say: poison, corrosive, toxic, flammable, or Keep Out of Reach of Children/Pets, in YOUR home.



# WASTE NOT, WANT NOT

## EXPLORING OUR WISE USE OF RESOURCES

### It's time to get those creative juices flowing!

Have you heard of the four Rs: Rethink, Reuse, Reduce, Recycle? Many discarded household items can be made into something new. Instead of recycling a plastic bottle or can, let's imagine how we can repurpose them into something useful... Let's make a pencil holder or organizer for your desk!

#### Supplies:

- \* Empty plastic bottle or can
- \* Yarn or string
- \* Construction/decorative paper, pictures from magazines or fabric scraps
- \* Markers, crayons, colored pencils
- \* Tape or Glue
- \* Scissors



#### Procedures:

1. Select the bottle or can you want to make into a pencil holder/organizer.
2. Gather the materials you will use to decorate your container.
3. Plan a design using the paper, pictures and/or fabric you have gathered.
4. Glue everything into place.
5. Select your favorite art supplies or items to fill your repurposed container and enjoy!



Check out [30 Crafts and Activities Using Recycled Materials](#) for more repurposing ideas.

## ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

[Read Aloud: The Wump World](#)

[SWACO: At Home Activities](#)

[Ranger Rick: Repurposing Old Socks into Fish Beanbags](#)

[Sesame Street: Reuse and Make Something New](#)

[Sesame Street: Use it Again](#)

[Daniel Tiger's Neighborhood: What Does Recycle Mean?](#)

[Martha Speaks: Waste Not, Want Not and Classroom Activity](#)

## GIVE IT A TRY!!

Add personality to your houseplants by creating fun planters out of repurposed cans and other odds and ends around your home. Check out [this link](#) for inspiration and directions.



## EXTEND LEARNING:

Turning used tires into playground equipment, mulch or plant pots is one innovative example of reusing and repurposing an item. Can you find other examples in your community?

- \* Travel around your neighborhood and try to find items that people are repurposing into something new.
- \* What ideas do you have for repurposing items in your own home?

Give old crayon pieces a new purpose by melting them into [Crazy Crayons!](#)

Use your new crazy crayons to write a list or draw a picture of your ideas for repurposing items in your house.

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