

# Creative recycling

Through this activity, students will have the opportunity to convert waste collected during clean-up campaigns into a collaborative art space. This initiative will encourage creativity and interactions within the school or classroom by reusing objects in inventive ways.

## A few words about the activity



It was carried out by French and Romanian teachers as part of the Erasmus+ ENIEDE project co-financed by the European Union. The activity is part of an approach to discover the theme of responsible consumption, Sustainable Development Goal No. 12 of the United Nations.

## Make way for creation!



### GOALS

- Create and improve an artistic object
- Recycling objects considered waste
- Negotiate to exchange, and/or to modify a joint achievement
- Give your opinion on a creation



### DURATION

- Over one day or over 5 sessions spread over time



### MATERIAL

- Recycled items brought by students and/or collected during a neighborhood cleanup
- Scotch tape, pins, glue  
**PROHIBITED** to encourage creative thinking and manipulation

# Preparations

Depending on the teachers' choices, ask students to bring their own waste from home or organize a collection.

Warn students that the project will take one day and that enough objects and varied objects (shape, material, nature) will be needed. Appropriate clothing.

## 1. Activity (in groups of 4-5 students):



"From the objects collected by your team, create a work without using tools, that is to say without scissors, without glue, without tape. You have 15 minutes to propose a first version of your work."

For the teacher:

A cutter can be provided to cut bottles or other elements. If a theme has been chosen, introduce it in this first phase of creation.

## 2. Observation and reflection on the creations of other teams:

Each team wanders from one creation to another to analyze the creations of the other teams: to take ideas for representation, implementation, assembly.



## 3. reflection and negotiation:

Returning to their creation, the teams think about ways to improve their work.

Exchanges will be possible between teams if all the protagonists manage to reach an agreement.

## 4. Back to the creations:

Students modify their works based on ideas from other teams and discussions.

The teams then prepare a description of their work:

- Title
- Materials used
- What it represents
- History of their creation:
- This object is used for... / This machine is used for... / I use it for...
- What they liked about the day of production
- The techniques they used
- The difficulties they encountered
- What we did well
- What we didn't do well.



## 5. Analysis of the creations of other groups:

Using a short analysis sheet, students provide feedback on each creation:

- What I feel when I see this work
- What I like the most
- What I could do with it / where would I put it at home
- The good idea of the creators (the little trick that makes their creation unique)
- This production makes me think of ...
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## 6. Exhibition within the school or for parents

An exhibition of works for families will highlight the students' creative work.



## To go further:

Depending on the team's wishes and the objects collected, a theme can be chosen from the first drafts of the creations (transport, portraits, animals) but not in advance so as not to influence the initial research.