

IV.7. RECYCLED MINI GAMES

THEMES	Environment, Sport, Recycling
Competencies	Teamwork & Cooperation, Problem solving, Recycling, Citizenship,
Group Size	9+
Complexity	Level 1/2
Age Range	8+
Time:	120 minutes

OVERVIEW

The aim of this activity is to get participants to use their imagination to design new games using recycled materials and for those games to them be used as part of a Mini Games or Mini Olympics.

The issues addressed include:

- Recycling and the environment
- Sustainability

OBJECTIVES

- To develop group work and cooperative skills and creativity.
- To encourage participants to think about recycling and the environment.

MATERIALS

- Recycled materials i.e. cans, bottles, paper, tins, toilet rolls, cartons.
- Bibs
- Scissors
- String
- Glue
- Sellotape
- Chalk

PREPARATION

Recycled materials can be collected either

- over a few weeks leading up to the activity
- by asking participants to bring their recycling in from home
- by getting all participants to collect their recycling the week leading up to the activity

INSTRUCTIONS

- Divide participants into equal groups of at least 3 and at the most 5
- Give each group a bag of recyclable materials
- Tell participants that you will all be taking part in Mini Games or Mini Olympics that is inclusive of all and that everyone has to take part in.
- Tell participants that, in their teams, they have to devise a game or activity using the recyclable materials and other materials provided and that that game or activity will form part of the Mini Games or Olympics
- Give each team 45 minutes to devise 1 or more activities and tell them to come up with the rules which they will have to explain to the others
- At least one game from each team will be used as part of a Recycled Mini Games for all participants.

DEBRIEF AND EVALUATION

Begin by asking participants if they enjoyed the activity and asked them how they worked together as a group, made their decisions and carried out the tasks. Then go on to discuss the games themselves and the rules people invented.

- Did everyone feel they were able to contribute?
How did the groups make the best use of individual talents of their members?
- Did the group work democratically or was there an appointed 'leader'?
- Was it hard to design games?
- Was it easy to make use of the recycled materials provided?
- Which games did people like the most?
- Did any group find the need to change the rules of the game once they tried it out?
- How inclusive were the games? Was everyone able to take part?
- Were the rules of each game 'fair'?
- Did the groups use the recycled materials in ways that they would never have pictured prior to these Games?

TIPS FOR FACILITATORS

- Mix the groups up as much as possible with a variety of abilities and a mix of ages and gender in each.
- You may need to designate a 'Games' area and a time limit for games.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Variation

An alternative version could be a Recycled Olympic Games where participants have to choose Olympic sports that can be carried out using the recycled materials, e.g. relays, shot put, etc.