

Land, Water, and Air Resources ▪ *Guided Reading and Study***Waste Disposal and Recycling**

This section explains what solid waste is, where it comes from, how solid waste is handled, and how individuals can help control solid waste. The section also describes types of hazardous wastes and their health effects, as well as disposal methods for hazardous wastes.

Use Target Reading Skills

Before you read, preview the red headings. In the graphic organizer below, ask a why, what, or how question for each heading. As you read, write the answers to your questions.

The Problem of Waste Disposal

Question	Answer
What is the problem with waste disposal?	Each disposal method has . . .

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The Problem of Waste Disposal

1. What is municipal solid waste?

2. What are other sources of solid waste?

3. List three methods of handling solid waste.

a. _____ b. _____

c. _____

4. Circle the letter of each sentence that is true about incineration.

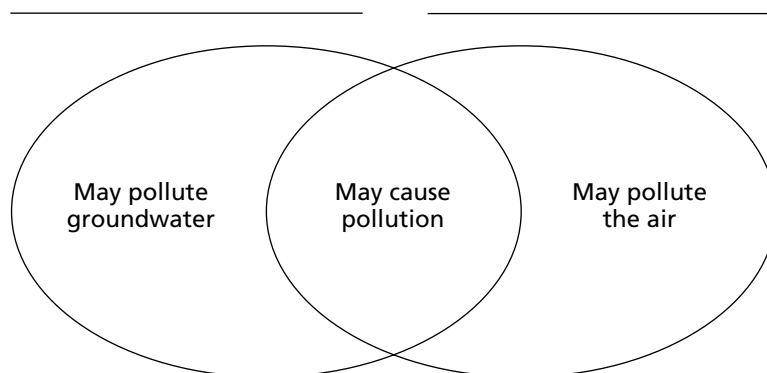
- a. It refers to the burning of solid waste.
- b. It can be used to generate electricity.
- c. It gets rid of solid waste completely.
- d. It is a cheap way to handle solid waste.

5. A place where solid waste is buried is called a(n)

6. A polluted liquid that forms when rainwater dissolves chemicals in landfill waste is referred to as _____.

7. How does a sanitary landfill differ from an open dump?

8. Label each circle in the Venn diagram with the method of solid waste management it represents.



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Waste Disposal and Recycling *(continued)*

Recycling

9. What is recycling?

10. Is the following sentence true or false? Recycling reduces the volume of solid waste. _____

11. A substance that can be broken down and recycled by bacteria and other decomposers is said to be _____.

12. List the four major categories of products that are recycled.

a. _____ b. _____

c. _____ d. _____

13. What are some common metal objects that can be recycled?

14. What products can be made from recycled plastic milk jugs and soda bottles?

15. Is the following sentence true or false? Glass is one of the most difficult products to recycle. _____

16. Why can paper be recycled only a few times?

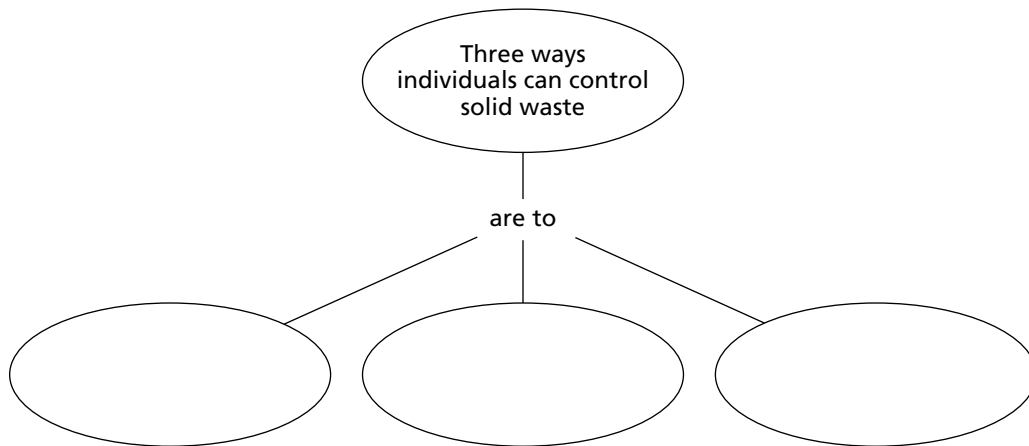
17. Circle the letter of each sentence that is true about recycling.

- a. It conserves resources.
- b. It creates no pollution.
- c. It saves energy.
- d. It can be used for all types of solid waste.

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What People Can Do

18. Complete the concept map.



19. Helping natural decomposition processes break down waste is called _____.

20. How can compost be used?

Hazardous Wastes

21. Is the following sentence true or false? Hazardous waste is any material that can harm human health or the environment.

Match the category of hazardous waste with its definition.

Category of Hazardous Waste	Definition
___ 22. toxic	a. Waste that reacts very quickly
___ 23. explosive	b. Waste that dissolves many materials
___ 24. flammable	c. Waste that is poisonous
___ 25. corrosive	d. Waste that easily catches fire

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Waste Disposal and Recycling *(continued)*

26. Is the following sentence true or false? Some radioactive waste can remain dangerous for thousands of years. _____
27. Is the following sentence true or false? A person can be exposed to hazardous wastes only by eating or drinking them.

28. Is the following sentence true or false? Long-term exposure to hazardous wastes can be life threatening. _____
29. List the methods of hazardous waste disposal.
- a. _____
 - b. _____
 - c. _____
 - d. _____
30. Is the following sentence true or false? Scientists have been able to develop completely safe methods for disposing of radioactive wastes.

31. How are high-level radioactive wastes currently stored?

32. Is the following sentence true or false? The best way to manage hazardous wastes is to produce less of them in the first place.

33. What can you do at home to reduce hazardous wastes?

