



What we did to help the environment



There are many things that we can all do to help the **environment**. Sometimes it might seem that the problems are too big for any of us to do much, but if we all do something small, it will make a difference.

Last year, my family decided that it was time we started to take better care of the environment, and we figured out what we could do to **reduce**, reuse and **recycle**.

We thought about how we could reduce the amount of waste we create. We thought about batteries. We were always buying new batteries and throwing out the used ones. So we decided to buy only **rechargeable batteries**. Now we hardly ever buy new batteries.

We thought about shopping and **packaging**. We decided not to buy things with a lot of packaging that goes straight into the rubbish bin, and to always take our own bags with us so that we don't have to use plastic bags to carry things home.

Mum suggested that we put our food waste into the **compost**. It is wonderful for the garden and we hardly put any food waste in the rubbish bin now.



My brother Tom made a list of what we could reuse. We keep empty glass and plastic containers to store food, and also to store things like pens that we might use in art projects. He suggested that we should give away the clothes we have grown out of. We are growing so fast that they are hardly worn at all. Tom also suggested we get recycled clothes from our cousins – lucky for us they have really cool clothes!

And the last thing we decided to do was to put the things that can be recycled into the recycling bin or take them to a charity instead of throwing them away.

Recycling might sound like hard work, but we found that it was easy once we started. And it is a great feeling to help make the world a cleaner place.

WE CAN RECYCLE

- cans
- plastic bottles
- glass
- paper
- cardboard
- worn-out clothes
- towels
- bed sheets
- blankets



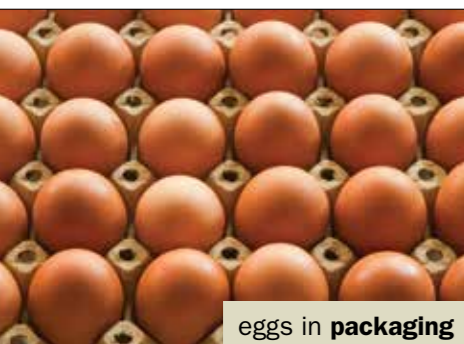
Know your vocabulary



compost Compost is a pile of natural plant and food materials that break down into smaller pieces and rot away. Compost can be used to help gardens grow.



environment An environment is the place or area where someone or something lives. There are many different types of environments, such as forests, deserts, mountains and cities.



packaging Packaging is wrapping such as foam, boxes or plastic that an item is packed in when you buy it.



rechargeable batteries Rechargeable batteries are batteries that can be used over and over again because they can be plugged into a power point and given more power.



recycle To recycle something is to use the material it is made out of and turn it into something else. For example, the metal from old cars can be used to make new refrigerators.



reduce To reduce something is to make it smaller or less noticeable. When we use less of something, like water, we say that we reduce our use of water.