UNIT 2

Alessandra Serreli

RECYCLE

How to recycle

We need to increase the amount of rubbish that is recycled, because we cannot carry on **burying** and burning rubbish forever. This is recognised by the government who are thinking of ways we can reduce the amount of rubbish we produce while we have to increase the amount we reuse and recycle.

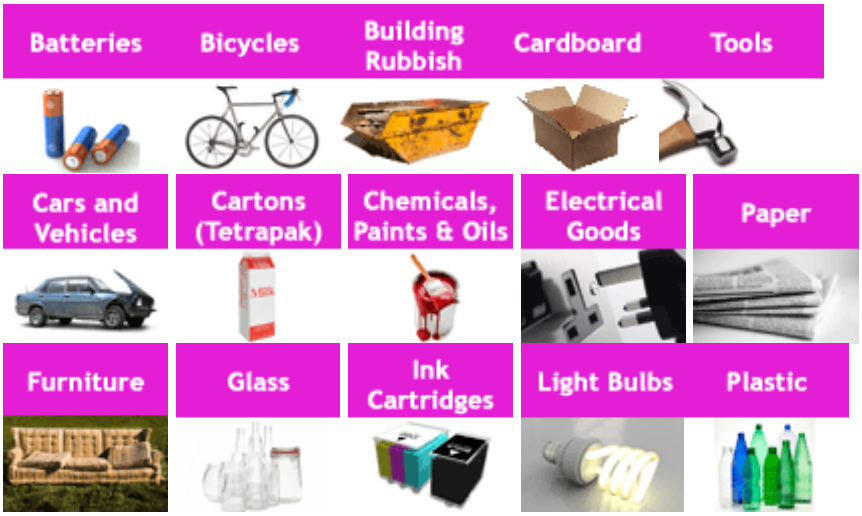
What can we change at home ?

However, these changes will not happen overnight. To increase **recycling** we need to:

reduce	reuse	recycle
cancel delivery of unwanted newspapers	donate old magazines to waiting rooms	collect more rubbish in recycling bins in our households ready to be recycled

take a packed lunch to school in a reusable plastic container	use your own shopping bags when visiting the supermarket, or reuse old plastic shopping bags	build more recycling **plants**
buy rechargeable items instead of disposable ones e.g. batteries and camera	donate old computers and audio visual equipment to community groups or schools	make sure there are enough rubbish trucks to collect the recyclable rubbish
buy products in refillable containers e.g. washing powders	take old clothes and books to charity shops	look for long lasting (and energy efficient) appliances when buying new electrical items. Ensure these are well **maintained** to increase product life cycle
buy concentrated products which use less packaging		
use low energy bulbs which last longer and use less energy		

How many things could be recycled .....



TYPES OF MATERIALS AND HOW TO RECYCLE

GLASS

Bottles and jars are usually separated by colour: brown, clear, and green. They have to be placed in the correct bin.
You have to wash out bottles and jars, remove caps before recycling (avoid wasting water: use your washing-up water).
light bulbs, pyrex-type dishes, windowpanes (broken pieces of window glass) etc. should **not** be put in containers for glass.

What happens to recycled Glass?

This is the beginning of Glass recycling called cullet
When glass jars and bottles are recycled, they are first sorted by colour.

Loaded on truck & transported
The glass is then loaded onto trucks or containers and transported to the nearest processing facility.

Transported to glass processing facility
The glass is then unloaded at one of the facilities and stored in a bunker. When they are ready to use the glass it is loaded into a feed tank, then moves up a **conveyor** and under a large **magnet** that

removes ferrous metal. Next, the glass passes through **picking** stations where ceramic and foreign material are removed manually.

Crushed cullet

The glass is then **crushed** into uniform size and called cullet. The cullet is then mixed with other **raw** materials to create a mixture and ready to be made into new bottles.

New bottles made from recycled glass

The glass is then ready **to be shipped** to bottling companies for filling and distributing.

PLASTIC

There are over 50 different types of plastics.
Most Local Authorities provide recycling **facilities** for HDPE and PET plastic bottles.
Many bottles are made from PET and HDPE including milk, shampoo, detergent and drinks bottles.
When recycling, don't forget to wash and squash your bottles
Plastic bags can be thrown into the specific containers for plastics.

Look at the chart for the different types of plastics:

CODE	TYPE	NAME	DESCRIPTION	SOME EXAMPLES
PET		polyethylene terephthalate	usually clear or green, sinks in water, rigid	Soft drink bottles, jam jars, vegetable oil bottles
HDPE		high density polyethylene	semi-rigid, sinks in water	milk and water jugs, juice bottles
PVC		polyvinyl chloride	semi-rigid, sinks in water	detergent / cleanser bottles
LDPE		low density polyethylene	flexible	bread bags, sandwich bags
PP		polypropylene	semi-rigid,	margarine tubs, straws
PS		polystyrene	often brittle, glossy	styrofoam, egg-cartons
Other		multi-layer plastics	squeezable	ketchup bottles, toothpaste tubes

PAPER

Paper collection is usually separated into: newspapers, magazines, **cardboard**, and **phone directories** . Unless specified, do not recycle catalogues, directories or envelopes which are gummed (covered with plastic) or glued together. Juice and milk cartons cannot be recycled with ordinary paper as they are made up of several materials.

Isn't paper just paper?

No, as a matter of fact, paper has its own "DNA" like human beings.

Cardboard boxes & brown grocery (shopping) bags

Are made with a high-grade fiber to give them extra strength required for their use.

Milk cartons & drink boxes

Many people think you can't recycle milk cartons because of their thin plastic **lining**, but this is easily removed during the recycling process.

When they're recycled, a single 1 litre milk carton can be turned into five sheets of high quality office paper.

One example of recyclable drink boxes:

TETRA PAK supplies (furnishes, provides) the majority of drinks cartons.

Items made from Tetra Pak include milk cartons, fruit juices, liquid foods such as pasta sauces and some ice cream cartons, look out for the Tetra Pak label

Newspaper

Creating newsprint out of old newsprint requires that it be **deinked.** After that point, the process is similar to starting with **wood chips** he **pulp** is pressed and dried into large, continuous rolls of paper. Paper is a natural renewable resource and is both biodegradable and recyclable. It is made up of many fibres. Millions of tonnes of paper are produced each year. This is used for a variety of products and applications such as office paper, newspapers, envelopes, agricultural sacks and the packaging of all types of consumer, commercial and industrial goods.

Find out about recycling symbols

The Green Dot is a symbol used on packaging in many European countries. It signifies that the producer of the packaging has made a contribution towards the recycling of packaging - however we do not use this system in the UK.

The Green Dot is not used as a compliance mark in the UK, but it is still a trademark. Anyone who produces packaging with a Green Dot, which is then sold in the UK, must pay a UK licence **fee**.

SOME OTHER EXAMPLES OF COMMON INTERNATIONAL LABELS FOUND ON PACKAGING

CANADA EUROPEAN COMMUNITY USA