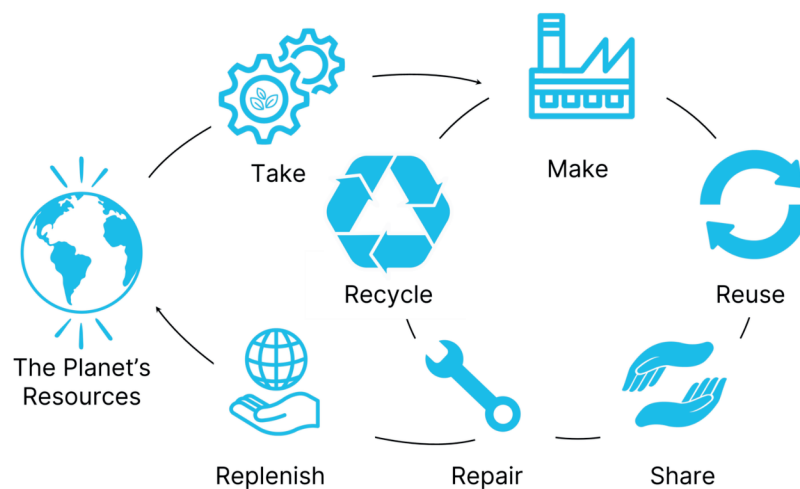


CIRCULAR ECONOMY FOR ADULTS

A circular economy (reduce-reuse-recover) is designed to minimize waste and make the most of resources, like wood from trees or minerals from the earth. In an economy where we design products from the start to last longer, to be fixed, reused again and again, and deconstructed into its original components, we move away from a linear economy (take-make-waste) for a more prosperous future.



How can a circular economy improve our lives?

Economic



- 371,000 direct jobs
- \$56 billion in value

Environmental



- 1.6 million tonnes of greenhouse gases avoided
- 470 kilotonnes of natural materials no longer needed

Social



- Makes life more affordable by taking care of what we have
- Teaches us to support one another & local businesses



[Towards a circular economy: value-retention processes.](#) Environment and Climate Change Canada (2019)

HOW TO USE THIS KIT

For teachers, parents, and guardians:

This kit is intended for children aged 6-10.

Print this booklet for your students or children to do in-class or at home. Familiarizing yourself with the circular economy and walking them through this content as a teachable is the best way for them to learn.

The Circular Economy Month Team wants to highlight the great learning taking place in classrooms! If your students or children enjoyed filling out the activities, please take pictures and share with us through email or on social media for a potential shoutout!

Email:
info@CircularEconomyMonth.ca

Social media:
Tag us on Instagram (@CircularEconomyMonth)
Tag us on Facebook (Circular Economy Month)

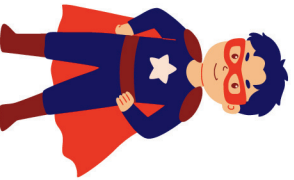
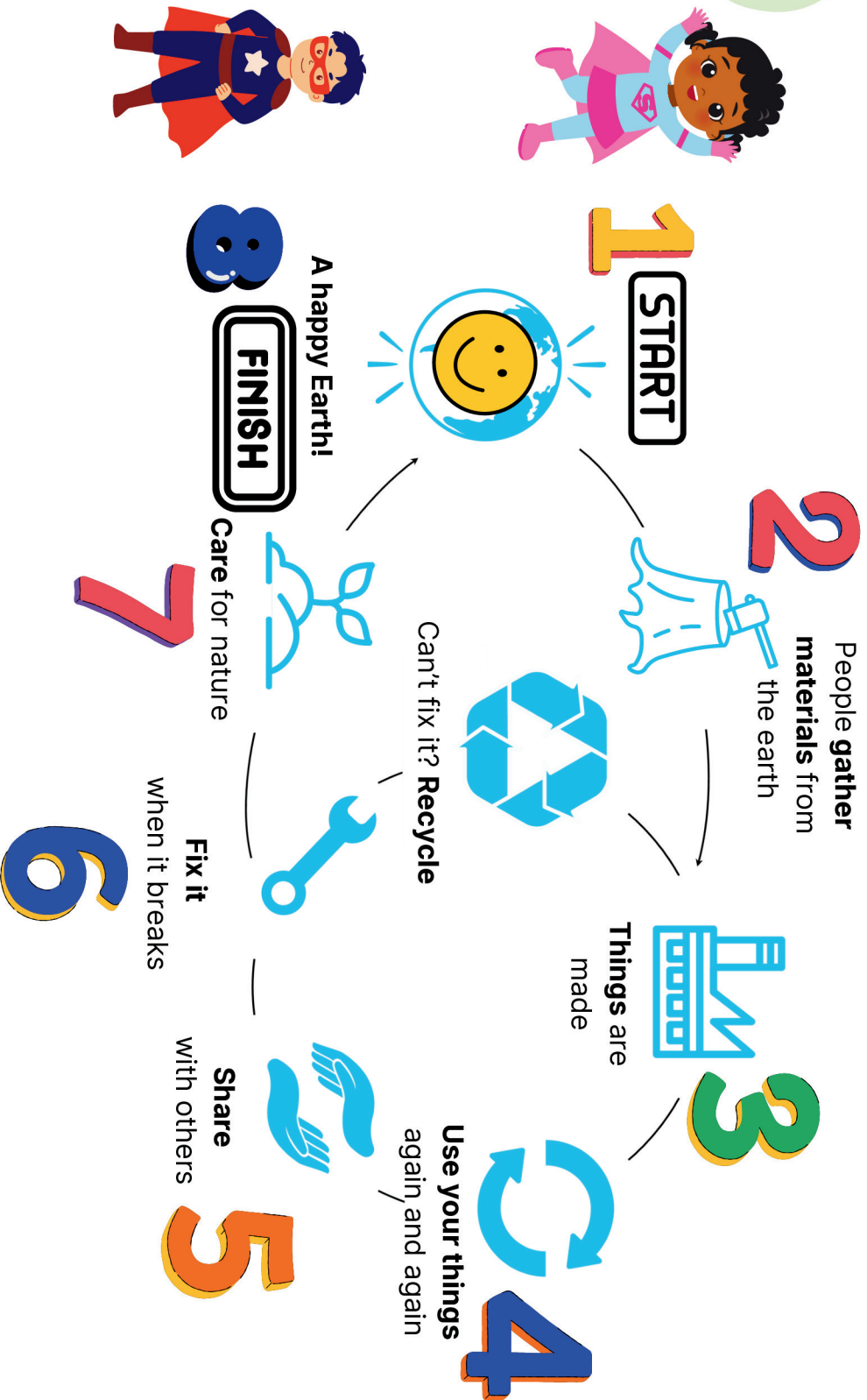


Produced and last updated October 17, 2024. For any content suggestions, comments, or concerns, please email the team at info@CircularEconomyMonth.ca.

BE A CIRCULAR SUPER HERO!

How can we help our planet?

Follow the numbers!



The Circular Economy Tree

Reuse your things

Using things as many times as you can means your parents don't need to buy new stuff.



Give to others

Pass along things you don't use or want so they can be loved again.



Take care of what you have

By caring for what we have, our stuff lasts longer.



Learn new skills

You can learn cool new skills like fixing toys, making crafts with used materials, and gardening!



Reduce plastics

Ask adults to pack a plastic-free lunch for you every day so they can save money!



Fix it

Fixing can be cheaper than buying new stuff all the time.



By sharing, repairing, reusing, and reducing, we grow the Circular Economy Tree!
How tall will yours grow?

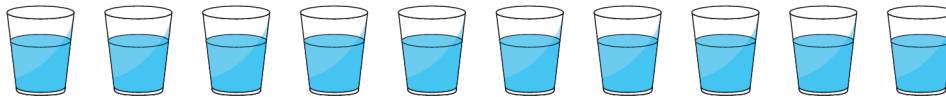
CIRCULAR ECONOMY FOR KIDS

FUN FACTS

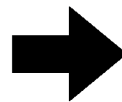


By using a reusable lunch box instead of a plastic bag, you can help save around 100 pounds of waste every year. That's about the weight of a giant panda!

Turning off the tap while brushing your teeth can save up to 128 cups of water **every day!**



There are 10 cups pictured above. Can you imagine all 128?

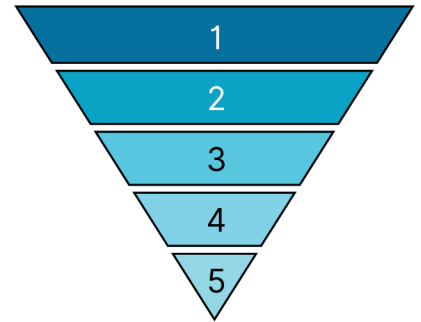


Using a reusable water bottle instead of buying bottled water can save enough money to buy a new toy every month!

4 WAYS TO REDUCE WASTE

There are many ways to reduce your waste and be a circular Super Hero! While all of the numbered steps below are helpful, some are better than others. A “hierarchy” shows us which are the best.

Can you think of the last time you did these steps? If so, describe your experiences below. If not, imagine using these steps in the future and write it down below.



1

Refuse: it's okay to say NO

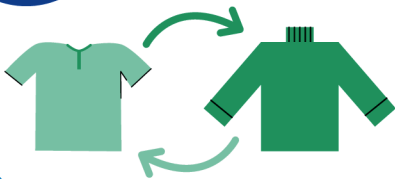
Example: I don't need more shoes because I love the shoes I already have.



2

Share, repair, reuse

Example: I helped my cousin patch a hole in his favourite shirt!





3

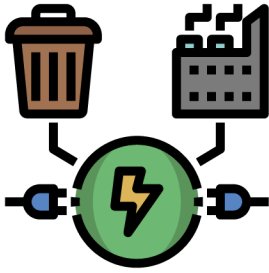
Recycle

Example: Once I've used both sides of a sheet of paper, I put it in the recycling bin!



4 WAYS TO REDUCE WASTE

4



Recover

Recover materials (pulling apart a smart phone for the scrap metal) or generate energy (burning our garbage to generate electricity) before sending things to landfill.

Why are steps 1-3 better than 4? Explain in your own words:

5

Sending stuff to landfill

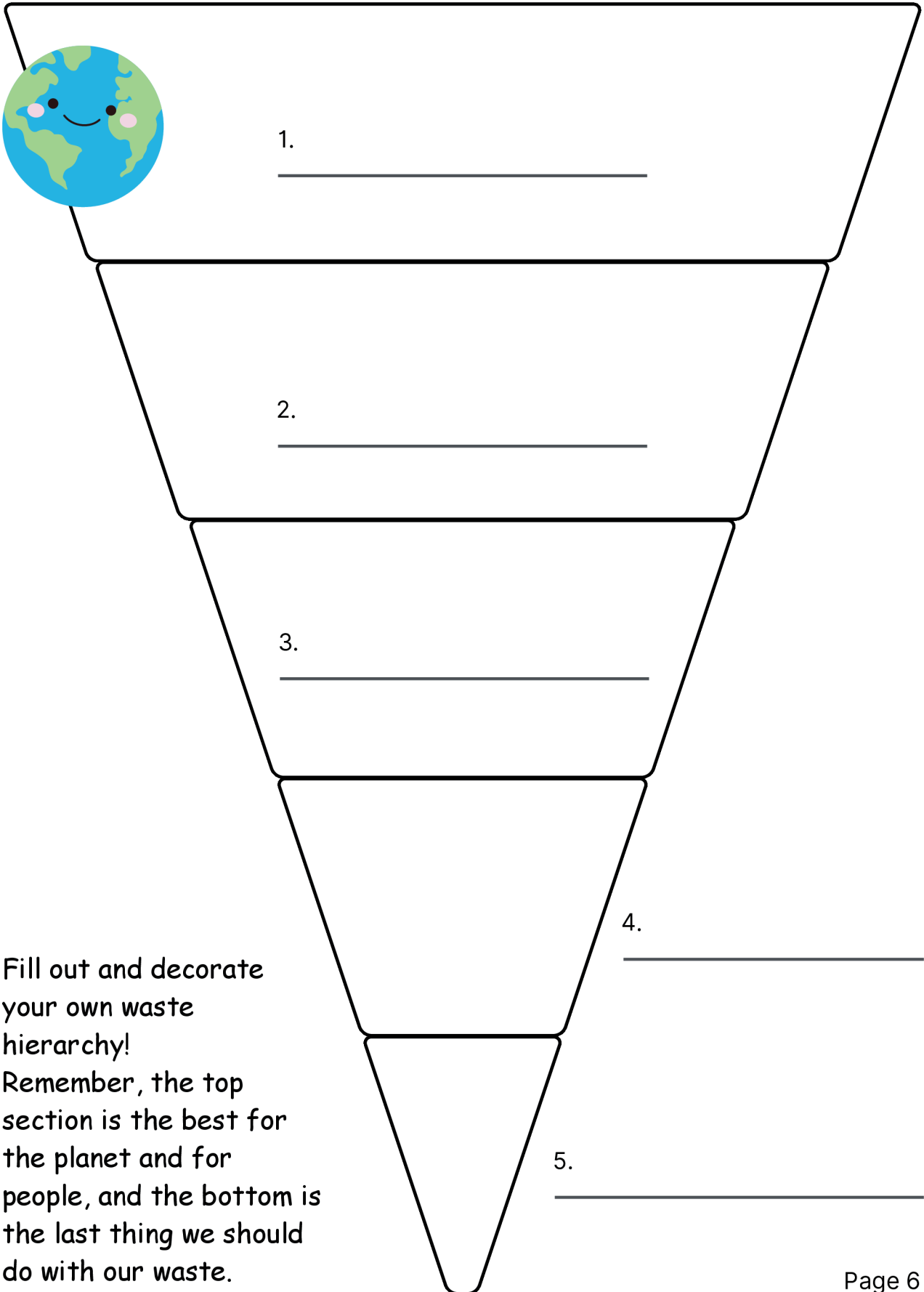
The very last thing we should do is dispose of stuff, making sure it goes into the garbage so it doesn't end up as litter in the environment.



Which steps are part of a circular economy, and which are not? Explain in your own words.

Hint: a circular economy is a way of thinking about what we already have, where nothing becomes waste.

YOUR WASTE HIERARCHY

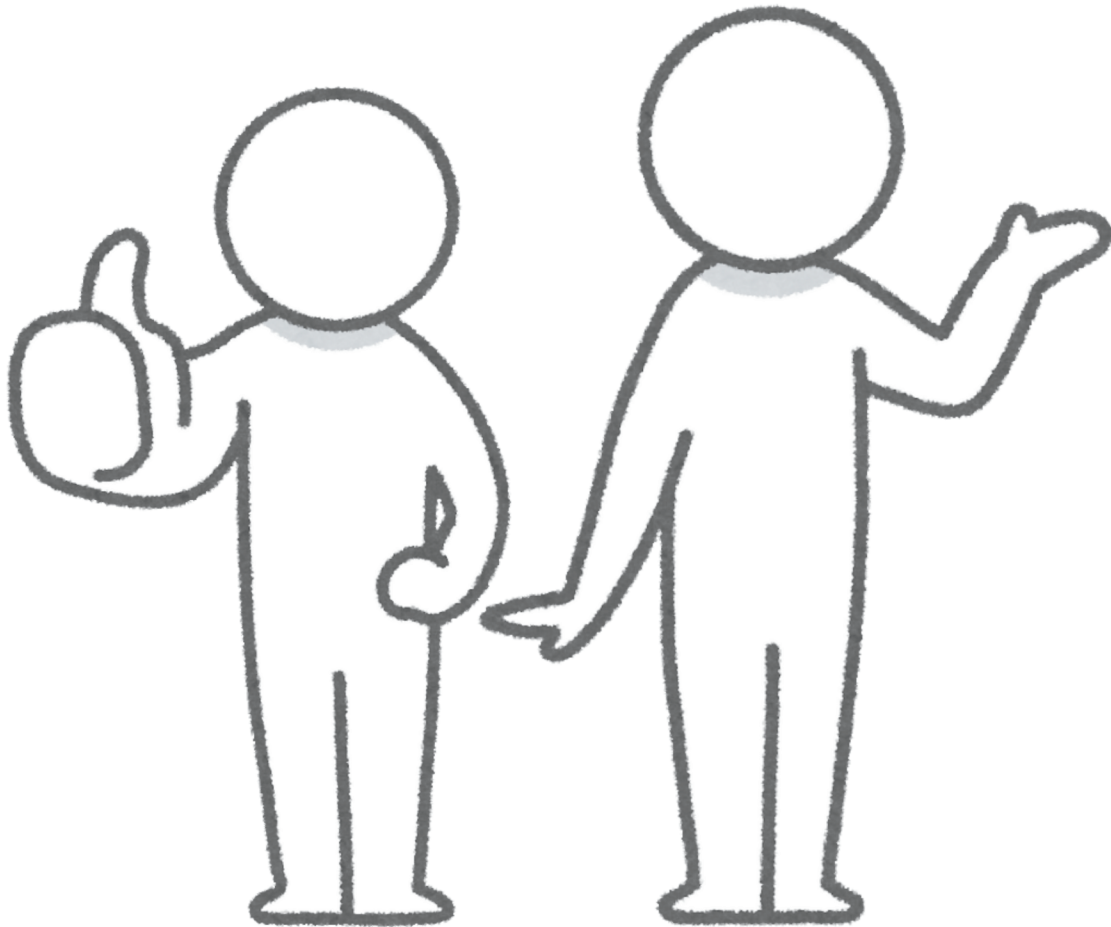


Fill out and decorate your own waste hierarchy! Remember, the top section is the best for the planet and for people, and the bottom is the last thing we should do with our waste.

DECORATE YOUR CIRCULAR SUPER HERO!

What would Circular Super Heroes wear?

Decorate your Heroes by drawing secondhand or mended clothes, crafted goodies, borrowed items, and more - use your imagination!

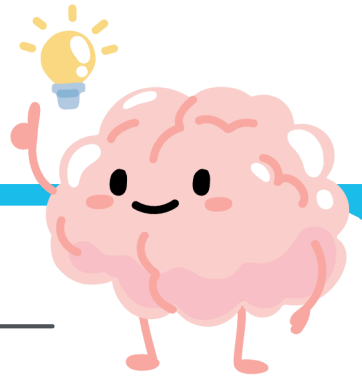


Here are some ideas of things you can find at the secondhand store or borrow from a friend!



Brainstorm

Can you imagine 9 activities YOU or your family can do to be a circular super hero?



At school







At stores or at home









Outside







