

OLD CLOTHES, NEW ACCESSORIES

| | |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| RATIONALE: | People can reduce solid waste by making new things from the old. |
| SUBJECTS: | Art, Social Studies (History), Home Economics |
| GRADES: | K-6 |
| LEARNING OUTCOME: | Students will learn creative ways to reduce solid waste by reusing some of what they might normally throw away. They will create functional and artistic projects from fabric scraps. |
| MATERIALS: | Old T-Shirts or other fabric pieces |
| LEARNING PROCEDURE: | <p>PART I:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Have children bring to class old colorful and worn out clothes, t-shirts, fabric. 2. Share pictures of patchwork and quilts. Ask students to think about how people may have creatively reused items in the past. <p>PART II:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Brainstorm ways to reuse fabric strips. Look on Pinterest for ideas such as bracelets, scarves, puppets, quilts, pot holders, braided rugs, books, fabric flowers, purses, pillows, etc. 2. Choose one activity or let the students choose their own. You may wish to create one item as a class (i.e. quilt or braided rug) or let everyone make an individual item (i.e. bracelet or scarf). 3. Have able students record steps in the production process. These could be shared with others. 4. Projects could be given as gifts, traded or sold in the community. |
| EXTENDED LEARNING: | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Investigate different quilt patterns made by different groups in American history and materials they used. 2. Invite a quilt maker to visit and demonstrate. 3. Let children arrange fabric scraps in patterns at a learning station. 4. Decorate boxes with fabric scrap designs. Use the boxes to collect recyclable materials such as paper and plastic. |
| PRE & POST TEST QUESTIONS: | <p>What other things besides fabric have you thrown away that could have been used again or made into something new?</p> <p>What things do you or your family reuse at home?</p> |