

OUT OF SIGHT, BUT NOT OUT OF MIND

RATIONALE:	Illegal dumping degrades our land and waters and imposes costs on society that all bear.
SUBJECTS:	Social Studies, Math, Home Economics
GRADES:	3-8
LEARNING OUTCOME:	Students will know where to dispose of waste.
MATERIALS:	Nerf Ball Paper Money County Map
LEARNING PROCEDURE:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Bring in a small Nerf Ball. Mark it "Garbage." Hide it in the room. 2. Tell students that garbage is hidden in the room. It is like a "hot potato." The idea is to make it someone else's responsibility and, above all, not be caught with it. 3. Supply the students with paper money---10 \$10 slips each. The money will be used to pay a \$30.00 fine if you are caught illegally dumping the garbage. Explain that illegal dumping is discarding garbage along roadsides or in the woods, where it degrades the beauty and health of nature. Explain it is unlike most litter in that illegal dumping can be considered a deliberate, malicious act. <p style="text-align: center;">**Periodically, the teacher will call for each student to fork over \$10.00 to cover the community cost of cleaning up illegal dumps.**</p> <p style="text-align: center;">**This game can also be played as traditional "Hot Potato" to music in a circle.**</p> 4. Ask: Why do people dump waste illegally? (Fees at landfills, distance to landfill, hours landfill is open, no garbage pick-up, etc....) Explain that illegal dumping occurs more often in rural and undeveloped suburban areas than urban areas, and that illegal dumps are magnets for more illegal dumping. 5. Tell students that the penalty a county may impose for illegal dumping will be higher than the fees charged at the local landfill. 6. Help students to identify on a county map where in the community people can recycle or legally dispose of wastes. 7. Pull up pictures on the Smartboard of both legal and illegal dumps/landfills. 8. Stress that through careful buying and recycling we can prevent many things from becoming garbage.
PRE & POST TEST QUESTIONS:	<p>What is illegal dumping?</p> <p>Why would people decide to dump waste illegally?</p> <p>In what ways does illegal dumping degrade the environment?</p> <p>In what ways does illegal dumping affect public health?</p> <p>Why does illegal dumping cost all of us?</p>