



Jane
Goodall
Institute

Learning Resource



The Circle of Life

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DP WORLD

The circle of life



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All links in this activity can be found on our website. Scan the QR code or use this link: tinyurl.com/y24955eb

This resource is all about the circular economy – a system where nothing is wasted. All products and materials used to make them are maintained, reused, recycled or composted in order to support humanity and nature at the same time.

In this activity you and your students will:

- ▶ learn about the circular economy
- ▶ look into changes they can make in their own lives to promote a circular economy

What do I need to make it work?

- ▶ Internet access
- ▶ Poster making materials

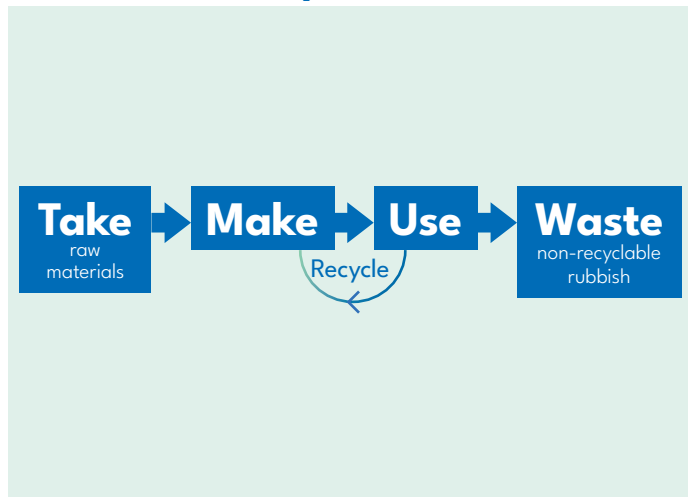
What things will my students create?

- ▶ Wall chart explaining how a circular economy is different to a linear economy.
- ▶ A poster to advertise the circular economy by showing simple ways people can support it.

Linear vs circular economy

What is a “circular economy”, how is it different from any other economy and why should we support it? Linear or circular economies are about the way we use the earth’s resources to produce the things we need to live: Food, shelter, clothes, entertainment etc.

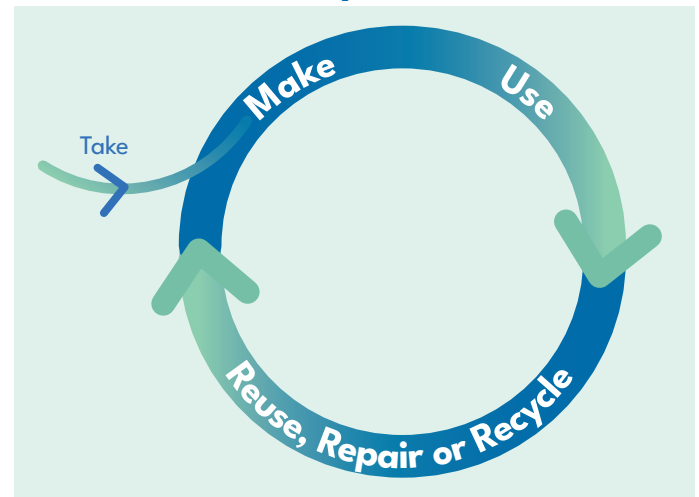
Linear economy model



In a linear economy new resources are taken and made into a product. The product is used or consumed until it is broken. Anything remaining after use is then thrown away as waste (even if some is recycled). This is how the world generally works at the moment.

Example: A smart phone in a linear economy uses precious metals like copper, tungsten and lithium. It is made in a way that is difficult to repair, the raw materials are not easy to recycle and reuse and often not designed to last more than a few years. So end up on the waste pile.

Circular economy model



A circular economy seeks to do away with the waste. So after we have used a product, it gets repaired for re-use or broken down to the raw materials again and recycled into a new product.

Example: Smart phones would ideally last longer, but are also designed for parts to be easily repaired, reused or recycled into new phones after use. Waste parts not suitable for new phones would be reused in other products.

Nature itself is the original circular economy as one animal’s waste becomes a plant’s food source and the plant becomes food for another animal and so on. Nothing in nature is wasted – The circle of life! [cue singing]

Information links:

- ▶ Kids.earth.org: tinyurl.com/y299dvbc

- ▶ National Geographic Kids: tinyurl.com/5n6w6shb

Circular case studies

Take a look at some case studies of people trying to tackle the waste problem by using the circular economy



Photo by Antoni Shkraba: <https://www.pexels.com/photo/gray-silicone-collapsible-cup-in-close-up-photography-6187634/>

Food packaging: tinyurl.com/2nxxkh88 – Take-away food and drinks are consumed in vast quantities. How can the packaging work in the circular economy?

Fair Phone: tinyurl.com/ykbs6438 – This is a phone company who are working hard to fit into the circular economy. Their phones are designed to last longer and be repaired and recycled more easily. Are they on the right track?

Repair cafes: www.repaircafe.org – How can groups like these repair cafes help support the circular economy?

Cook clever, waste less: tinyurl.com/49tcskvs – Prue Leith & Dr Rupy's cookery show aimed to show people how to re-think how

they cook to reduce waste. What tricks do they have to help you reduce waste in your cooking?

Discuss

- ▶ Here are a few questions to think about in your group:
- ▶ What is your favourite case study and why?
- ▶ In your daily life what waste do you create?
- ▶ Are there ways you can reduce, reuse or recycle that waste?
- ▶ What one waste item might you try to eliminate from your life?

Make a wall chart

Take what you have learnt and display it in a way that's helpful for others to understand the circular economy

Divide a large piece of paper into two areas. Use the left side to recreate the diagram of the linear economy and the right side to recreate the circular economy diagram.

Pick a few examples of products that you use, like phones, food, clothes or furniture and draw pictures with descriptions of what would happen to them on each side of the display.

Support the circular economy

It's time to get involved in the circle of life! Here are some simple ideas to help you get involved.

Make a poster

No, really MAKE a poster, starting with the paper!

► tinyurl.com/yj2vwy9n

Once you've made your recycled paper, pick some simple changes people can make in their lives, like using washable coffee cups, or fixing broken items and design a poster to advertise how to do it with some facts about how much CO2 or money they will save.



Photo by Julia Schmidt: <https://www.pexels.com/photo/person-holding-box-end-wrench-1154089/>

Take a broken thing to a repair cafe

► www.repaircafe.org

Have you got any toys or household items that are heading for the bin because they are broken? Why not try to fix them? Use the website to find your local repair cafe. They will give you a hand.

Or are you in a school with some handy teachers? Made you could speak to them about setting up a repair club?

Wasteless cookery

► tinyurl.com/49tcsksv

Inspired by Pru? Why not see how you can adjust some of your favourite recipes to reduce waste at home? You could compile them into one document and email them for your school to use.

Want to help improve this activity?

This activity is a living document! Help us by editing this activity to make it as good as possible, just use this short link (just type it into your web browser's address bar): bit.ly/3Fc5dPt – full instructions are provided. Any edits that can make this resource easier to use in the classroom are very welcome, so please follow the link and make your contribution!



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JGI & DP World

The Jane Goodall Institute has partnered with DP World to support the growth of the Roots & Shoots programme. DP World are a leading provider of worldwide smart end-to-end supply chain logistics with a presence in 55 countries, enabling the flow of trade across the globe. This exciting partnership supports the creation of resources on the wider marine ecosystem as well as supporting the expansion of Roots & Shoots groups around the world. Find out more: bit.ly/jgi-dpw



Tell us how you got on

When your project is finished we'd love to see what you did! If you already have an account you can upload a story with images to the Jane Goodall's Roots & Shoots UAE website (find us at www.rootsnshoots.ae) to show off pictures and videos of your ships to a wider audience. If your school or youth group does not already have an account then just fill in the form on the website and we can set you up.

UAE Year of Sustainability

2023 is the Year of Sustainability in the UAE where we ask the question how can we be sustainable as a **community**, with our **nature**, and our **resources**? Through knowledge-sharing and storytelling, together we can spread essential information about sustainability and its importance, so share your work as wide as you can and tag/mention the campaign on Instagram, Facebook, X, YouTube and TikTok with the account @UAEYearOf and the hashtags #UAE52 and #TodayForTomorrow. Learn more at UAEYearOf.ae.

Keep up to date with Jane Goodall's Roots & Shoots UAE

As well as the website you can also find us on Facebook at facebook.com/RootsnShoots.ae or on X as [@JaneGoodallUAE](https://twitter.com/JaneGoodallUAE)

