

Design Your Own Environmentally Friendly Packaging Lesson Plan – GCSE & Above

Skills that you'll use

- You will learn more about materials and their properties
- You will investigate and analyse the work of past and present professionals in order to help inform your own ideas.



Materials needed

- Pencil or pen
- Some paper

Optional task

- Scissors
- Colouring pens
- Cardboard
- Glue stick or double sided sticky tape



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Activity plan

Introduction (5mins)

Guy Jeremiah was on holiday in what he thought would be a paradise but people's rubbish and littering made a beach in Fiji into a disheartening sight. Plastics made up a lot of what he was seeing floating on the waves. Guy's background as an environmental scientist made him more than aware of the negative impact of plastic on the environment and, in particular, the oceans. One of the common pieces of plastic were bottles of water.

Guy wasn't a designer himself but he knew the problems of the end user. Users don't want to carry a water bottle around with them all the time and they don't often know where they can find water to fill their bottle with if they are out and about.

When Guy returned home he contacted a design company to help him with his idea. The result was a water bottle that can collapse down to be carried in the user's pocket when not in use and an app that will locate your nearest fountain to help you fill the bottle when you are thirsty.

Watch the Design Museum film about the Ohyo bottle and 'find a fountain' app to see Guy's solutions.



Activity plan

Discuss (5-10mins)

What are your thoughts on Guy's design?

Can you think of anything that you buy on a whim with a disposable wrapper or container?

What alternative materials could you make the container for this from?

Could you use a reusable container?

Research (10 mins)

Find three types of food and drink packing in your recycling.

Make sure that they are different types of packaging (remember to ask permission first).

Have a look at each piece of packing.

How many parts are there to it (for example your cereal box will have a plastic bag with the cereal in it inside the box).

What materials are they made of?

How many times do you think you could use this piece of packaging again?



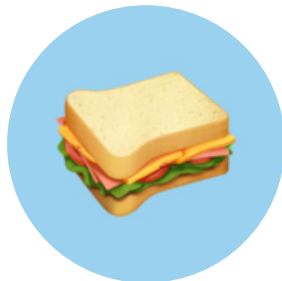
Activity plan

Activity (1 hour)

One of the most common items bought by people whilst they're out are pre-made sandwiches. The triangle shaped boxes with plastic windows can be found littering the streets and filling up rubbish bins. Use a pen and paper to sketch out your idea to make a reusable version of a sandwich box. You have to be able to carry the box in a collapsed or folded form in your pocket and you have to be able to know where you can buy a sandwich on your way to work or school. Think about how you will order your sandwich and how you will collect it.

Design an app that goes along with your box that helps you order and collect your sandwich. Perhaps it can offer incentives to buy types of sandwich that aren't selling too well in order to cut down on waste at the end of the day. Your app could reward the user for healthier choices or for picking sandwiches that are less popular.

Annotate your design and share it with the Design Museum on social media with **#DesignFromHome**.



Optional task

Extra
(1 hour)

Use some cardboard to make a 3D model of your packaging.

Measure out your shape (if it's a box then you'll need all of the sides to be even) and decorate it before cutting it out and sticking it together.

Share your 3D package with the Design Museum on social media with **#DesignFromHome**.

