

Reduce, Reuse, Recycle

Chapter 12: Taking Charge of Waste · Topic 2

Key Concept

Reduce means using fewer resources or creating less waste, like buying only what we need and avoiding excess packaging.

Reuse means using an item again instead of throwing it away, like using an old jar to store items or reusing paper for drawing.

Recycle means processing waste materials, like paper, plastic, and metal, into new products instead of throwing them away.

Following these three steps, in order of importance (reduce first, then reuse, then recycle), helps significantly reduce the waste that ends up harming our environment.

Quick Revision Notes

- Reduce means using fewer resources or creating less waste.
- Reuse means using an item again instead of discarding it.
- Recycle means processing waste into new products.
- Reduce is the first and most important step.
- Reuse comes before recycling in importance.
- These three steps reduce environmental harm.
- Reusing an old jar is an example of reuse.
- Recycling paper, plastic and metal reduces waste.

Practice Questions

- 1 List one way you can reduce waste.
- 2 Reuse an item instead of throwing it away.
- 3 Find something at home that can be recycled.
- 4 Make a poster about reduce, reuse, recycle.
- 5 Discuss with your family how to reduce waste.
- 6 Practice sorting waste for recycling.