



# Some Things That Are Thrown Out Have Value\*

Activity P.m/E.x  
GRADE LEVEL: K-6

**OBJECTIVE:** To show children that some things that are thrown out have value.

**VOCABULARY:** valuable

**PROCEDURE:**

- What might there be in one person's trash that would not be trash or waste to someone else?

Set up a "swap box" where the children can bring in old toys or objects that might be thrown out. They can trade an old toy for another one that is new to them. An alternative would be to set up a collection box for a local Goodwill or Salvation Army collection.

As a homework assignment, ask the children to write a short story, real or imaginary, describing something valuable that they found buried in the garbage. The stories should include accounts of the previous owners and reasons why the objects were thrown away.

Explain to children that one way to make something last longer — or extend its "life" — is to share it with someone else once you have outgrown or grown tired of it.

\* Adapted from U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Let's Reduce and Recycle: Curriculum for Solid Waste Awareness