



THE MIGHTY EMPTIES STUDY MATERIAL PACKAGE:

TO THE TEACHER

There is no sense in throwing recyclable waste away with other waste or into the environment. Thus, Finns make 2 billion ecological achievements every year by returning bottles and cans with a deposit to be recycled.

The deposit encourages returning the containers, but habit and attitude matter, too: Finns learn to return bottles already as children, and they consider it important. The beverage container recycling system is also an apt practical example of the ways with which people and the society aim to act more sustainably. Thus, it is a good thing to teach.

WHO IS THE THE MIGHTY EMPTIES STUDY MATERIAL PACKAGE AIMED AT?

The package is primarily aimed at comprehensive school grades 4–7, but the materials can also be applied to teaching other grades.

WHAT MATERIALS ARE INCLUDED IN THE PACKAGE?

The Mighty Empties study material package includes a number of different materials that can be used separately or together. All materials are available for downloading in electronic format (palpa.fi/schools) and the practice book can also be ordered free of charge as a printed copy (subjectaid.fi).

Every pupil can be given their own **practice book**. It contains information on the recycling of beverage containers and related questions, exercises and a quiz. Pupils can also read the book independently, if necessary.

The PowerPoint presentation contains largely the same information as the practice book, but in a format suitable for projecting. The presentation works well when the teacher leads the discussion, but it can also be printed for pupils to review independently or in groups.

The background information package offers the teacher facts on the recycling of beverage containers. The package provides additional resources for discussing the questions presented in the other materials and developing additional exercises. You can also decide not to use the other materials and build a lesson on recycling based on the background information package.

The quiz repeats what is discussed in the different materials and encourages seeking information proactively. The quiz can be found at the end of the practice book, but it can also be printed separately (pdf) (download at palpa.fi/schools)



WHAT KINDS OF LESSONS ARE THE MATERIALS SUITED FOR?

Responsibility for the environment, well-being and a sustainable future is among the subject matter included in the comprehensive school curriculum. The recycling of beverage containers is well-suited as part of discussing this theme, and it can be applied to several subjects.

Environment and nature studies, biology, chemistry: The recycling of beverage containers is a good everyday example known to everyone when discussing topics such as sustainable development, environmental responsibility, waste management and the cycle of materials.

Mathematics: The lengths, weights, numbers, areas and percentages associated with the recycling system can be used for applied exercises.

Social studies: In Finland, the existence of the beverage container recycling system is based on the Waste Act and the tax benefit on recycling. It is a good example of society's means of encouraging companies and consumers to do something that is in the common interest.

Household economics: The recycling of beverage containers is part of a home's waste management, and the importance of sorting waste can also be discussed more extensively based on it.

WHO HAS PRODUCED THE STUDY MATERIALS?

The Mighty Empties study material package has been produced by Suomen Palautuspakkaus Oy, or PALPA, the company that manages the beverage container recycling systems in Finland. PALPA is a non-profit company owned by the retail trade and breweries. One of the statutory tasks of PALPA is to promote and support recycling through communications, among other ways.

QUESTIONS OR FEEDBACK?

We would be happy to hear feedback on these study materials! You can complete the feedback form at www.palpa.fi/palaute or send e-mail to asiakaspalvelu@palpa.fi.