

Reduce: Where Do You Stand?

Rubric

A rubric is a scoring tool that helps you understand how your work will be evaluated. This rubric is provided to show you the expectations for your performance and engagement during the lesson based on specific tasks.

Name _____ Date _____

Task	4	3	2	1
Collaborative Small Group Discussion about Value Statements (Individual)	Student meets the expectations for collaborative discussions by taking turns, staying on topic, and using academic language frames to add to the discussion; claims are supported with facts or evidence.	Student meets most of the expectations for collaborative discussions, such as taking turns, staying on topic, and using academic language frames to add to the discussion; most claims are supported with facts or evidence.	Student participates in the collaborative discussion. Few claims are supported with facts or evidence.	Student does not participate effectively in the collaborative discussion.
I Need More Information Student Worksheet (Individual)	Student highlights and takes thoughtful notes on “Kids Can Reduce” article; all expository text is cited, quoted, and analyzed in detail; opinion piece planned neatly and thoroughly.	Student highlights and takes notes on “Kids Can Reduce” article; expository text is cited, quoted, and analyzed; opinion piece planned.	Student highlights and takes some notes on “Kids Can Reduce” article; most expository text cited, quoted, and analyze; some parts of opinion piece planned.	Student does not highlight and/or takes minimal notes on “Kids Can Reduce” article; expository text may not be cited or analyzed; opinion piece requires additional planning.
Opinion Piece (Individual)	Introduces the topic clearly and states an opinion; provides reasons for opinion that are supported by facts and details; includes a relevant concluding statement.	Introduces the topic and states an opinion; provides reasons for opinion that are supported by some facts and details; includes a concluding statement.	Introduces the topic and states an opinion; provides reasons for opinion that are supported by some facts and details; may stray from topic or lack organization.	Does not clearly introduce the topic or state an opinion; reasons for opinion are not supported by facts and details; strays from topic and/or lacks organization.

Reduce: Where Do You Stand?

Value Statements — Group One

Directions: Read each statement and the fast facts about the statement and circle the number that reflects your thoughts or opinion about the statement.

Name _____ Date _____

1) *It is better to ask for a plastic bag than a paper bag when I'm shopping at the store.*

strongly disagree 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 strongly agree

Explain why you agree or disagree with the statement by citing evidence to support your opinion.

.....

.....

2) *It is my responsibility to put litter in a garbage can.*

strongly disagree 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 strongly agree

Explain why you agree or disagree with the statement by citing evidence to support your opinion.

.....

.....

Fast Facts — Group One

Directions: Use the fast facts below to cite evidence that supports your opinion about each value statement.

1) FAST FACTS

Plastic bags are mistaken by many marine animals, especially sea turtles, for food.

- Paper bags hold five to six times the amount that plastic bags hold.
- Californians use more than 19 billion plastic bags each year (about 552 bags per person).
- Discarded plastic bags create 147,000 tons of waste that end up in the state's landfills each year and are enough to circle the Earth more than 250 times.
- Using a reusable canvas bag decreases the amount of bags used, which in turn shrinks the amount of waste going to our landfills.

2) FAST FACTS

- Almost 80% of marine debris comes from litter left on the ground. Most of the litter gets to the ocean when it is washed down storm drains, into streams, and empties into the ocean.
- Based on research conducted from 2003-2005 at 26 different sites in the Bay Area, an average of 2.93 pieces of trash were found for every square foot of stream.
- California spends more than \$300 million every year just on litter cleanup.

Reduce: Where Do You Stand?

Value Statements — Group Two

Directions: Read each statement and the fast facts about the statement and circle the number that reflects your thoughts or opinion about the statement.

Name _____ Date _____

1) *Using less stuff is important because things are made from natural resources.*

strongly disagree 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 strongly agree

Explain why you agree or disagree with the statement by citing evidence to support your opinion.

.....

.....

2) *Many things we buy come with too much packaging.*

strongly disagree 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 strongly agree

Explain why you agree or disagree with the statement by citing evidence to support your opinion.

.....

.....

Fast Facts — Group Two

Directions: Use the fast facts below to cite evidence that supports your opinion about each value statement.

1) FAST FACTS

- It takes over one ton of natural resources to make one ton of glass. This includes 1,300 pounds of sand, 410 pounds of soda ash, 380 pounds of limestone, and 160 pounds of feldspar.
- In the state of California alone we use more than 19 billion plastic bags a year. It takes more than one million barrels of oil, or 4,000 barrels a day, to make these bags. Oil is a nonrenewable resource.
- Every ton of steel that is recycled prevents 2,500 pounds of iron ore, 1,400 pounds of coal, and 120 pounds of limestone from being used.
- For every aluminum can that is recycled instead of being created from bauxite, enough energy is saved to watch three hours of television.

2) FAST FACTS

- On average 60% to 80% of total marine debris is plastic garbage. Single-use disposable products, packaging, and bags make up a large part of the plastic marine pollution.
- Californians throw away 66 million tons of solid waste and about one third of that comes from packaging.
- Ten percent of the average grocery bill pays for packaging.

Reduce: Where Do You Stand?

Value Statements — Group Three

Directions: Read each statement and the fast facts about the statement and circle the number that reflects your thoughts or opinion about the statement.

Name _____ Date _____

1) *The commercials I see influence me to buy certain products.*

strongly disagree 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 strongly agree

Explain why you agree or disagree with the statement by citing evidence to support your opinion.

.....

.....

2) *It is okay to throw things away that could be reused, recycled or composted because they will go to a landfill.*

strongly disagree 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 strongly agree

Explain why you agree or disagree with the statement by citing evidence to support your opinion.

.....

.....

Fast Facts — Group Three

Directions: Use the fast facts below to cite evidence that supports your opinion about each value statement.

1) FAST FACTS

- The average American receives 41 pounds of junk mail, or advertisements through the mail each year.
- Half of parents believe that the food they buy and the restaurants they go to are strongly influenced by their children's desires.

2) FAST FACTS

- Over 90,000 pounds of food is thrown away in Napa County every single day.
- In California, during 2008, food was the number-one thing thrown away by residents, making up 15.5% of waste disposed in landfills.
- When paper is made from used paper instead of timber, it uses half the energy and produces 75% less air pollution.
- Making new aluminum products out of old aluminum cans uses 95% less energy than it takes to make new aluminum out of bauxite.

Reduce: Where Do You Stand?

Value Statements — Group Four

Directions: Read each statement and the fast facts about the statement and circle the number that reflects your thoughts or opinion about the statement.

Name _____ Date _____

1) *It is cool to fix up things like bikes and skateboards instead of always buying new stuff.*

strongly disagree 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 strongly agree

Explain why you agree or disagree with the statement by citing evidence to support your opinion.

.....

.....

2) *I should use the backside of a piece of paper to do my math calculations.*

strongly disagree 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 strongly agree

Explain why you agree or disagree with the statement by citing evidence to support your opinion.

.....

.....

Fast Facts — Group Four

Directions: Use the fast facts below to cite evidence that supports your opinion about each value statement.

1) FAST FACTS

- Wood is the most common material used to make skateboard decks, the part skaters stand on.
- Skateboard trucks, which hold the deck to the wheels, are usually made of aluminum or other metals (steel, brass, or another alloy). Skateboard wheels are made of polyurethane (a synthetic rubber polymer). All of the parts come from natural resources.

2) FAST FACTS

- California school districts create approximately 763,817 tons of waste per year.
- It takes 17 trees to make one ton of paper.
- The average American uses 718 pounds of paper and paper products each year.

Reduce: Where Do You Stand?

Value Statements — Group Five

Directions: Read each statement and the fast facts about the statement and circle the number that reflects your thoughts or opinion about the statement.

Name _____ Date _____

1) Students should buy several sets of school supplies at the beginning of the year, so they always have what they need.

strongly disagree 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 strongly agree

Explain why you agree or disagree with the statement by citing evidence to support your opinion.

.....

.....

2) It is okay to buy a new bottle of water each day because the bottles can be recycled.

strongly disagree 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 strongly agree

Explain why you agree or disagree with the statement by citing evidence to support your opinion.

.....

.....

Fast Facts — Group Five

Directions: Use the fast facts below to cite evidence that supports your opinion about each value statement.

1) FAST FACTS

- The main reason students need new pens and pencils is because they lose them, not because the ink has run out or the pencil has been sharpened away. Using a cloth pencil bag helps students keep track of their supplies, causing them to need less.
- Frequently students have leftover school supplies that can be used for the following year, such as binders, notebooks, and folders.

2) FAST FACTS

- In 2002, 93 billion plastic water bottles went into landfills in the US. That is enough plastic bottles to reach the moon and back 38 times.
- One third of water consumed in the United States comes out of a container. This adds up to 45 million new plastic bottles of water consumed daily, with less than 10% of this total being recycled.
- Fourteen recycled plastic bottles create enough fiber to make an extra-large T-shirt.
- On average, each household in California throws away 34 pounds of plastic water and soda bottles each year.

Reduce: Where Do You Stand?

Value Statements for Further Research

I Need More Information! — Part One

Our values are based on many factors, including culture, family, advertising, and belief systems. Our values are also influenced by factual information and evidence. If we don't have enough evidence or factual information to understand something, we may need to acquire more information through further research.

Name _____ Date _____

Task Description

1. Below are all 10 Value Statements from the lesson. Choose one value statement you have difficulty agreeing or disagreeing with, and need more information about in order to make an informed decision.
2. Read the article "Reduce Waste" for additional evidence to help you agree or disagree with your chosen value statement. Write down facts from the article that can help you agree or disagree with the value statement.
3. Conduct additional research to help you determine where you stand. Cite your resources.
4. Write a short opinion piece, in which you introduce the topic, state your opinion, and support your opinion with facts and evidence.

Choose a Value Statement for Further Research

- ☐ 1. It is better to ask for a plastic bag than a paper bag when I'm shopping at the store.
- ☐ 2. It is my responsibility to put litter in a garbage can.
- ☐ 3. Using less stuff is important because things are made from natural resources.
- ☐ 4. Many things we buy come with too much packaging.
- ☐ 5. The commercials I see influence me to buy certain products.
- ☐ 6. It is okay to throw things away that could be reused, recycled or composted because they will go to a landfill.
- ☐ 7. It is cool to fix up things like bikes and skateboards instead of always buying new stuff.
- ☐ 8. I should use the backside of a piece of paper to do my math calculations.
- ☐ 9. Students should buy several sets of school supplies at the beginning of the year, so they always have what they need.
- ☐ 10. It is okay to buy a new bottle of water each day because the bottles can be recycled.

Reduce: Where Do You Stand?

Value Statements for Further Research

Facts or Evidence From “Kids Can Reduce!” — Part Two

Name _____ Date _____

Quote From Text	My Analysis (Example: This quote from the text leads me to agree or disagree with the value statement because...)
1.	
2.	

Value Statements for Further Research

Facts or Evidence From “Kids Can Reduce!” — Part Three

Reference (Example: Jones, A., & Smith, B. (2005). Kids Can Recycle. Retrieved from http://www.sciencekids.com)	Quote from Text	My Analysis (Example: This quote from the text leads me to agree or disagree with the value statement because...)
1.		
2.		
3.		

Reduce: Where Do You Stand?

Value Statements for Further Research

Planning an Opinion Piece — Part Four

Name _____ Date _____

1. Introduce the topic

Hint: Provide the reader with an interesting fact or statement about reducing waste

Topic Sentence: _____

2. State your opinion

Hint: Restate the value statement in a way that expresses your opinion. Example: "It is important to reduce waste by..."

Opinion: _____

3. Provide several (2–3) reasons that support your opinion

Hint: Use the facts or evidence found in the articles you researched. Begin each reason with a linking word or phrase (e.g., for instance, for example, in addition to, in order to)

Reason / Evidence: _____

Reason / Evidence: _____

Reason / Evidence: _____

4. Write a concluding statement

Hint: Remind the reader of both the topic and your opinion

Concluding Statement: _____

Draft, revise, and publish your opinion piece according to your teacher's directions.