

CAT 4 RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

Group 4-073

PROJECT TEACHING SINGAPOREANS HOW TO CORRECTLY RECYCLE

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ABSTRACT

“Project Teaching Singaporeans How To Correctly Recycle” is a resource development project that aims to educate lower secondary students on the correct methods of recycling. Our idea is to create a resource package that educates people on how to recycle correctly and properly. Many lower secondary school students think that they are recycling the right way. However, most of the time, they are not. We think this is a very important issue to address and solve as recycling affects the natural environment. With growing emphasis on environmental issues, it is essential that our generation know how to correctly recycle items to better educate the next generation.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Rationale

Many people in Singapore do not know how to properly recycle, which is a bad thing as in the 21st century, recycling is very important as waste has a huge negative impact on the natural environment. Harmful chemicals and greenhouse gasses are released from trash in landfill sites. Although recycling helps to reduce the pollution caused by waste, the lack of understanding how to recycle items correctly has worsened the situation. Having personally witnessed our peers throwing their fruit juice cup into the recycling bin, resulted in our realisation that there is a need for better education especially in recycling items in the right way.

1.2 Objectives

The objectives of Project Teaching Singaporeans How To Correctly Recycle are

- Educate lower secondary school students on correct recycling informations and knowledges
- Making an effort to save the world through our project

1.3 Target Audience

Our target group is lower secondary school students.

1.4 Resources

The resources created for this project was an Instagram page comprising frequent posts regarding recycling facts, recycling methods and information on which items can be recycled. There is also a website which holds online resources including informative videos and a recycling chart.

Website link: <http://project-teaching-sg-recycling.webnode.com/>

Instagram Page link: https://www.instagram.com/project_teaching_sg_recycling/?hl=en

1.5 Reviews

Based on our research, we found out that 60 % of Singaporean households recycle regularly but are not doing it right. Examples are throwing items like soiled paper food packaging into recycling bins has resulted in contamination of the items that can be recycled. We did find out that their actions were not intentional and many thought they were doing the right thing. Due to the lack of information, many find it very hard to differentiate items to be recycled or not to be recycled. They are confused about what items are recyclable. Thus our main takeaway from this project is that Singaporeans are actively trying to recycle but they actually do not know the correct methods.

3 METHODOLOGY

3.1 Needs Analysis

We scoured through various websites and sources to find out whether or not our idea was supported by sources from websites and were relieved to note that it was an issue that currently plagues our society. We then moved on to create some google forms as a form of survey to gather more information and research on the real knowledge lower secondary school students have on correct recycling methods. Our results can be seen below. We concluded that most of the secondary school students support recycling and believe that they somewhat know how to correctly recycle.

However, more than half of them chose the wrong option, showing that they actually do not know the correct method of recycling. From that information, we decided to carry out making our website and setting up our instagram page. After that we decided to make another form for feedback from our peers who had viewed our resources. The outcome was great and we appreciated the positive feedback from our peers as shown in the second form below.

3.2 Survey Results

1st form on gathering data and information

Do you think that recycling is a waste of time? - 94% no

From a scale of 1 to 10 how important do you think recycling is? - Most said 8 - 10

From the scale of 1 - 10, how confident are you in believing you are recycling the right way? - Most said 5 - 7

Recycling method quiz - 53% chose wrong option

2nd form on feedback

Have our resources benefited you? - 76% yes

Have you learnt anything from our instagram posts / website - 80% yes

On a scale of 1 - 5, how interesting was our instagram page - Most chose 4 or 5

On a scale of 1 to 5, how interesting was our website - Most chose 4 or 5

4 OUTCOME & DISCUSSION

Although the outcome was positive and generally most people found our resources interesting and helpful, we hope to encourage and build more awareness to more than just Hwa Chong lower secondary students. We are looking to expand our project further by collaborating with experts like NEA (National Environmental Agency) to further advertise our project idea to other lower secondary school students and also to get more updated information in line with the government efforts to promote environmental conservation. However, due to the ongoing pandemic, we found it difficult to do so and government agencies were busy dealing with the impact of the pandemic. Another way to expand our project would be to invite experts or well-known environmental conservationists to zoom meetings where they can share their views on how we can do more to help Singapore. These steps would further boost our project and bring it to a higher level that would impact a wider audience.

IN CONCLUSION

Project Teaching Singaporeans How To Correctly Recycle was an overall fun and interesting project to carry out. We are particularly elated because of the positive reviews given and how we managed to use our creativity and innovation to create many resources like our website. We are happy many lower secondary students will now learn some correct methods to recycle and hope they can continue to learn more from our project and do their part in saving the environment. As Margaret Mead, an American cultural anthropologist, once said, "A small group of thoughtful people could change the world. Indeed, it's the only

thing that ever has.” So every bit of effort counts.

6 REFERENCES

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