# **Polymer Properties**

| Teach 1  | Names of student(s) teaching:  |
|--|--|
| Teach date:<br>Teach time:<br>Teach length: 45 minutes | Title of lesson: Polymer Properties (Day 2)<br>Source (Kit, Lesson, Page #): |

## **Concept statement/Main idea:**

Polymers have many different properties. Those properties depend on how its waste can be recycled.

## Standards for the lesson:

Students should know the difference between monomers and polymers. Along with, how they are relevant to our daily lives.

| Objectives  | Evaluation  |
|---|---|
| Write objectives in SWBAT form  | Write at least one question to match the objective you listed or describe what you will look at to be sure that students can do this. |
| SWBAT differentiate polymers by property.                                   |   |
| SWBAT <b>label</b> each waste according to their polymer type.              |   |
| SWBAT <b>match</b> which recycling number corresponds to the correct waste. |   |



## Engagement

Estimated time: 10 minutes Description of activity:

| What the teacher does  | What the student does   | Possible questions to ask<br>students — think like a student<br>and consider possible student<br>responses                         |
|--|---|--|
| The teacher will ask the students the difference between polymers and monomers.  | The students will define<br>monomers and polymers in<br>their own words.  | Will you place all these items<br>in the same recycling bin?<br>Why or why not? Answers<br>will vary depending on the<br>students. |
| The teacher will display a<br>plastic bag, a bottle, and a<br>Styrofoam cup and ask the<br>students if all of these will be<br>put into the same recycling<br>bin. | Students will discuss in small<br>groups whether the items<br>displayed go into the same<br>recycling bin or not. | Have you seen different types<br>of recycling bins? What were<br>they? Metal cans, plastic<br>bottles, and paper                   |
| There can also be more<br>objects displayed and each<br>student can predict which<br>objects go into the same<br>recycling bins.                                   | Students will also state why<br>they think they go to the<br>same bin or not.                                     |  |

### **Resources needed:**

Models of different polymer types

Safety considerations:

## **Exploration**

Estimated time: 15 minutes Description of activity:

| What the teacher does What the student does | Possible questions to ask<br>students — think like a student<br>and consider possible student<br>responses |
|---|--|
|---|--|

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| Teach will pass out the same<br>or various different objects<br>that represent each different<br>type of polymer. Then they              | The students will observe each polymer and describe them. | What does rigidity mean?<br>The inability to be bent or<br>forced out of shape. |
|--|---|---|
| will ask each group of<br>students to describe each<br>object using rigidity,<br>floatability, opaque, polymer<br>name, and application. |   | What does opaque mean?<br>Not being able to see through<br>it.                  |

### **Resources needed:**

Worksheet/chart to describe each item.

## Safety considerations:

Students should not horseplay with the objects.

## **Explanation**

Estimated time: 20 minutes

Description of activity:

| What the teacher does  | What the student does   | Possible questions to ask<br>students — think like a student<br>and consider possible student<br>responses   |
|--|---|--|
| Teacher will go over the<br>polymer names,<br>abbreviation, and its<br>properties and ask the<br>students to label each sample<br>with the proper polymer. | Students will work together<br>to properly label the<br>polymers they have. | What are the differences you<br>see between each object?<br>Were there objects you<br>thought would be grouped<br>together but weren't?<br>What do you notice about<br>the objects that are very rigid<br>and opaque? What about<br>those that are not rigid and<br>clear? |

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## **Resources needed:**

Chart of the polymers' properties

## Safety considerations:

## **Elaboration**

# Estimated time: 20 minutes Description of activity:

| What the teacher does  | What the student does  | Possible questions to ask<br>students — think like a student<br>and consider possible student<br>responses |
|--|--|--|
| The teacher will pass out a card sort for the students to do (10 min).   | Students will do a card sort<br>that matches polymer<br>properties and the type of<br>recycling that goes with it. |  |
| Then with the polymers the<br>students have in each group,<br>they will race to put them in<br>proper cubbies with labels. | After getting the card sort<br>checked, the students will<br>place it back in the plastic<br>bag.                  |  |
| Teachers should be monitoring the whole time!  | Students will have a race in putting their wastes in the appropriate bin.  |  |

#### **Resources needed:**

Card sort WS Bins with labels

## Safety considerations:

Have the students fast walk. No running.

## **Evaluation**

Estimated time: Description of activity:



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| What the teacher does | What the student does | Possible questions to ask<br>students — think like a student<br>and consider possible student<br>responses |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|--|
|                       |                       |  |

## **Resources needed:**

**Evaluation Quiz** 

Safety considerations:



| Material Acronym<br>Polymer Name                   | Plastic ID Code | Examples of Products  |
|--|-----------------|---|
| PET<br>Polyethylene<br>Terephthalate               | ß               | Soft drink and water<br>bottle packaging                            |
| HDPE<br>High Density<br><mark>Poly</mark> ethylene | 23              | Ice cream containers,<br>detergent bottles,<br>plastic shopping bag |
| PVC<br>Polyvinyl Chloride                          | <u>د</u> ع      | Pipes, garden hoses   |
| LDPE<br>Low Density<br>Polyethylene                | 4               | Plastic Food wrap   |
| PP<br>Polypropylene                                | త్              | Lunch boxes,<br>microwave<br>containers, straws                     |
| PS<br>Polystyrene                                  | ŝ               | Plastic cutlery, plastic<br>glassware                               |

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Soft drink and water bottle packaging

Ice cream containers, detergent bottles, plastic shopping bag

Pipes, garden hoses

Plastic Food wrap

Lunch boxes, microwave containers, straws

Plastic cutlery, plastic glassware



#### **Step 1: Polymer Properties**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

#### Evaluation

- 1. What are the three properties that determine the polymer type?
  - a. Size, malleability, weight
  - b. Rigidity, floatability, opaque
  - c. Color, brittleness, luster
- 2. If an object has high rigidity, can float, and is opaque, which polymer is it?
  - a. PETE
  - b. PVC
  - c. PS
  - d. PP
- 3. What are the advantages and the purpose of separating recyclable wastes? Why do we have to separate them?

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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- 3. What are the advantages and the purpose of separating recyclable wastes? Why do we have to separate them?

The purpose of separating the recyclable wastes is because they have different properties which may lead to being decomposed in different manners. So by categorizing recyclable wastes through properties, it allows materials to be decomposed easier.

