Plastics In-Class

Keeping you informed on the contribution plastics make to the environment.

Plastics in Class for November 2011
Brought to you by the Canadian Plastics Industry Association

Did You Know?

- More and more clothing is being made from recycled plastic. Patagonia, Quicksilver and Billabong are just a few brands that use the recycled plastic – saving one tonne of greenhouse gases for every tonne of recycled PET.
- Innovative water-producing devices like the Groasis Waterboxx and the Fog Collector can help bring water to arid nations – helping thousands of lives in the process.

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Tel. 905.678.7748, ext. 231
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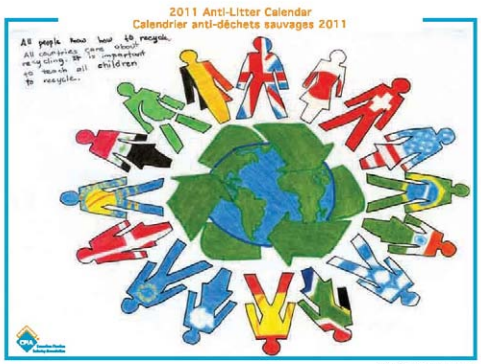
Anti-Litter 2012 Calendar Contest - Nov. 30 deadline

Get your students involved in the next annual **Anti-Litter Calendar Contest!**



We're looking for as many entries as possible that promote a strong **anti-littering message** to help convince other students not to litter. The contest is open to students from kindergarten to grade eight.

Each submission will be judged according to:
• Effectiveness in promoting an anti-litter message
• Creativity and
• The age of the artist

Contest Summary

- Submissions may be either hand-drawn or computer generated, but they must be of good reproduction quality.
- The posters should measure 11" wide x 8 ½" high.
- A total of 13 entries will be chosen for the next edition of the Anti-Litter Calendar, which will be made available in electronic format.
- Each of the artists responsible for a winning submission will receive two, four-colour copies of the Anti-Litter Calendar, along with a certificate.
- Download the 2011 Anti-Litter Calendar.
- Download the official registration form and additional contest details.
- **Deadline for submissions for the 2012 Anti-Litter Calendar contest is Nov. 30, 2011.** Submissions must be marked before or on that date.
- **Submissions:**
  mail to: Anti-Litter Calendar Contest c/o CPIA, 5955 Airport Road, Suite 125, Mississauga, ON L4V 1R9
  or, email: calendar@plastics.ca

- For additional questions, please phone Jesse Audette at **905.678.7748**, ext. 231.

A special thank you goes out to all of elementary teachers who continue to make this annual contest possible by encouraging (and finding the time!) to get their students to participate. Your continued guidance and support goes a long way to enabling this contest to remain such a success.

On the Drawing Pad

PVC Pipeline Brings Running Water and Relief to Impoverished Honduran Village

COLINAS de SUIZA, HONDURAS, Oct. 25, 2011 – In Honduras, one of the poorest countries in the Western hemisphere, many small villages do not have access to basic resources such as clean and affordable water. Soon, PVC pipe provided by members of the Plastic Pipe and Fittings Association will deliver running water to every home here.

Before this partnership, villagers spent up to half of their family income to purchase barrels of water delivered by trucks. Worse yet, the water was often improperly handled, sometimes resulting in contamination.

In 2004, the Humanitarian Engineering Program of the Colorado School of Mines began designing a water distribution plan for the village, with plans to replace the existing water delivery system by pumping water from a nearby well into a storage tank. Gravity would take over to bring home delivery of the water, at 1/50th of the cost, while eliminating contamination and reducing energy consumption by 95 percent. Other institutions, universities, and organizations also contributed money and goods to the project, including 11 members of the Plastic Pipe and Fittings Association.

The engineers specified PVC pipe for its durability, proven success in handling drinking water for more than 70 years, ease and safety in installation, and affordability. PPFA members provided more than 72 tons of PVC materials including 146,000 feet of piping, 6,000 fittings, 1,825 valves, 182 gallons of primer and solvent cement, and the services of an experienced installation supervisor, for a total market value exceeding $150,000.

The pipe installation began in 2008, with 75 percent of the village families contributing an average of $100, or 13 days' wages for the average Honduran laborer, for construction of the water storage tank and pumping system. Many of them volunteered to help with the installation.

While setbacks included on-site material thefts, the sudden death of the municipal director of Water and Sanitation, three different mayors overseeing the project, and occasional budget shortfalls, all of these challenges were met and overcome. Seven years from conception to completion, the 8,000 people of Colinas de Suiza can now enjoy what many take for granted – clean running water in their homes.

For more information on the Plastic Pipe and Fittings Association, go to: www.ppfahome.org.

The Vinyl Institute represents the leading manufacturers involved in the production of PVC vinyl in the United States, and promotes the value of PVC and vinyl products to society.

For more information, contact:
Jeffrey B. Palmer
Director of Marketing & Communications
The Vinyl Institute
571-970-3327
jpalmer@vinylinfo.org

Also go to: www.vinylindesign.com, www.vinylinfo.org, and www.achievegreen.net.

All in a day's work for plastics

This sampling of innovative uses for plastics is but a small example of the many different ways that plastics are continuing to shape and change the world in which we live. Plastics are seemingly a very simple and ordinary material but their benefits can stretch as far as the imagination allows.

Classroom Activities

- A tale of two drops of oil Video
  Download this short fun and informative tale of how two oil drops live two different lives: one as energy to heat our homes and the other as plastic. Discover the lifecycle of a plastic product – from oil drop to recycling and then back to energy. Special thanks to PlasticsEurope for supplying the video.
- Have your students submit entries for the Anti-Litter Calendar contest.

Association Canadienne de l'Industrie des Plastiques
Canadian Plastics Industry Association
Fully committed to the responsible use and recovery of plastics resources.
5955 Airport Rd., Suite 125, Mississauga, ON L4V 1R9
Tel : 905.678.7748 x. 231 | Fax: 905.678.0774 | www.plastics.ca/teachers