


Technology V9/S2: Reduce, Reuse, Recycle



To **recycle** something is to take something old and turn it into something new. Recycling is important because it reduces the pollution created when making new items. Recycling is a process that could slow down **climate change** if properly done. Climate change is happening because humans are polluting the Earth and overusing its resources.

It is the third process in “reduce, reuse, recycle”, making it the least important of the three. To **reduce** means to use fewer items than you normally would. An example of reducing waste is bringing a travel mug to a cafe instead of using a paper or plastic cup. To **reuse** means to find new purposes or owners for used items. An example of reusing is shopping for second-hand clothing instead of new clothing. There are many ways an item can be recycled. Glass bottles can be recycled into beads.

First	Second	Next	Then	Finally
Glass bottles are collected.	The bottles are crushed.	The bottles are put into molds.	The molds are put in the oven.	The glass turns into beads.
				

In order to create real change and stop climate change, we need to begin recycling in a systematic way. Even though there are three parts to the “reduce, reuse, recycle” process, governments and companies have focused only on the recycling aspect.

Experts say governments should focus on reducing the number of items we use and reusing the items we create. This is because the way companies create items makes them unsuitable for recycling. A lot of items people think they are recycling actually go to landfills.

