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**Topic: Solid Waste/Recycling Lesson Plan**

**Rationale:**

The less reliant the United States is on imported oil, the greater our independence on the international scene in implementing foreign policy. For every can that is recycled, as much gasoline as would fill half that can is saved – for every 25 aluminum cans recycled, a gallon of gasoline is saved. The more gasoline saved, the more oil saved, and the more oil saved, the less dependant the United States is on the importation of oil.

**Exercise:**

Determine how much your family can save in the course of a year through recycling aluminum cans and glass bottles.

**Step 1:**

Count the number of bottles and cans your family uses each week. You may have to ask family members themselves how many cans they use or estimate to the best of your ability. Be sure to include cans used at home, work, and at the college.

**Step 2:**

Take the figure from Step 1 and divide it by 25. This figure indicates how many gallons of gasoline your family could save during a week. How many gallons of gasoline could your family save in a year?

**Step 3:**

Repeat Step 1 for glass bottles. How many bottles do you recycle or throw away during the course of the week?

**Step 4:**

Take the figure from Step 3 and compute how many gallons of gasoline your family could save in a week and a year.