



MEDIA RELEASE

4 OCTOBER 2021

Learn about recycling with the Schools Recycle Right Challenge
Celebrate 25 years of National Recycling Week with your school

Planet Ark is challenging Australian teachers and students to recognise waste as a valuable resource and celebrate recycling this National Recycling Week by taking the Schools Recycle Right Challenge.

The Schools Recycle Right Challenge runs from **4 October to 12 November 2021** and offers a wide range of recycling themed activities, lesson plans and event ideas that have been developed specifically for Australian schools. Teachers and students interested in participating in the challenge can find these resources and the Getting Started Guide from the [National Recycling Week website](#), which will assist in planning your involvement.

Free curriculum-aligned lesson plans and a range of fun activities are available for students in early-learning, primary and secondary schools. Planet Ark will also deliver two free online recycling sessions for Australian schools (**6 and 20 October**), providing the opportunity for students to ask our experts their biggest questions about recycling.

Students who participate can also go into the running to win a grand prize worth over \$1,000 for their school, while teachers have the opportunity to win several individual prizes. To submit an entry simply take a photo of your completed lesson plans, resources or taking part in one of our activities and tell us about how your students got involved.

The Schools Recycle Right Challenge is part of Planet Ark's National Recycling Week (**November 8-14, 2021**), which provides an important opportunity for councils, workplaces, schools and individuals to improve recycling knowledge and build better recycling habits. Founded in 1996, the annual event is this year celebrating a quarter century of helping the country recycle right by asking Australians to celebrate recycling in their own way.

This year, Planet Ark worked with National Recycling Week major sponsor Gumtree Australia to develop a curriculum aligned lesson plan based on the recently released digital book "Ollie and the Spectral Spectacles". The book and lesson plan urge students to rethink the way we understand our resources and encourages them to reduce and reuse to help them make their community and environment more sustainable.

Planet Ark also worked with Sheridan, official sponsor of the Schools Recycle Right Challenge, on an audiobook called "Dreams Can Change The World" to inspire Australian



students to think outside the box when it comes to sustainable action. The story was co-created by seven Australian kids for other Australian kids about a shared dream where they use secret powers to help them clean up a river that needs their help.

For more information, visit nationalrecyclingweek.com.au/at-school.

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Schools Recycle Right Challenge Resources:

- [Getting Started Guide](#)
- [Lesson Plans](#)
- [Activities and Resources \(including Gumtree and Sheridan learning resources\)](#)
- [Competition](#)
- [Registration for the free Online Recycling Session](#)

For further information, interviews or images please contact:

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About Planet Ark

Planet Ark Environmental Foundation is an Australian not-for-profit organisation with a vision of a world where people live in balance with nature. Established in 1992, it is one of Australia's leading environmental behaviour change organisations with a focus on working collaboratively and positively. Planet Ark promotes and creates simple, positive environmental actions – for everyone.

About National Recycling Week

Planet Ark's National Recycling Week, founded in 1996, highlights the environmental benefits of re-use and recycling programs, while making participation enjoyable and easy through community events and programs. The dates for National Recycling Week in 2020 are **Monday 8 to Sunday 14 November 2020**.