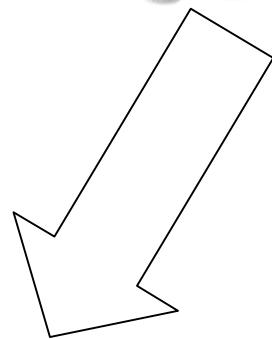
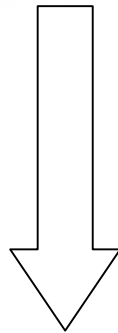
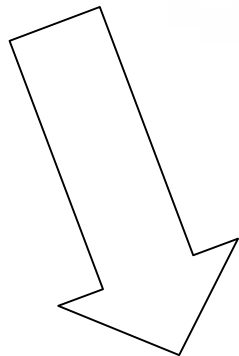


WHOSE BIN IS IT?

In this activity students analyze the contents of a “recycle bin” to make inferences about the family whose recycling bin it is. This activity is a lead in activity for the Archaeology of Your Recycling activity.

Show the “recycle bin” pictures to your class (below). Show all of the pictures together so students have a complete picture of what is in the bin. Ask them to tell you what they see. Then, ask them to make inferences about the family whose recycling this is:

1. What can you tell me about what they eat? Do they have a healthy or unhealthy diet?
2. What can you tell me about who might live in this house? What are their ages?
3. What sorts of things does this family like to do for fun?
4. What sorts of things are missing? What don't we know about this family?
5. How is this like what an archaeologist does?



WHO IS IT?

In this activity students analyze a collection of their classmates belongings to determine who they belong to. This activity helps students practice inference, a skill needed in the Archaeology of your Recycling Activity.

Give each child a brown paper lunch bag. Have each child put 3 things from their desk, backpack, or lunchbox that are unique in the bag. Examples could be: a unique pencil, a pair of gloves, a water bottle, a marker if a child likes to draw or hairclip.

Either as a whole group, small groups, or in partners review the contents of each bag and answer the following questions. Be sure to remind students to not reveal the identity of the person whose belongings are in the bag.

1. What do you see?
2. Can you tell if this is a boy or a girl?
3. What sorts of things might they like?
4. Based on these items who might this bag belong to?

Debrief the activity as a whole class:

1. Was it easy or difficult to figure out who each bag belonged to? Why?
2. What "clues" were helpful?
3. How is this like what an archaeologist does?

You could then display the contents of each students bag in a classroom "museum."