

CHALLENGE #2: ZERO
WASTE

DID YOU
KNOW...?

WELL, LET'S
SEE!

OH
YEAH!?



IDDPNQL



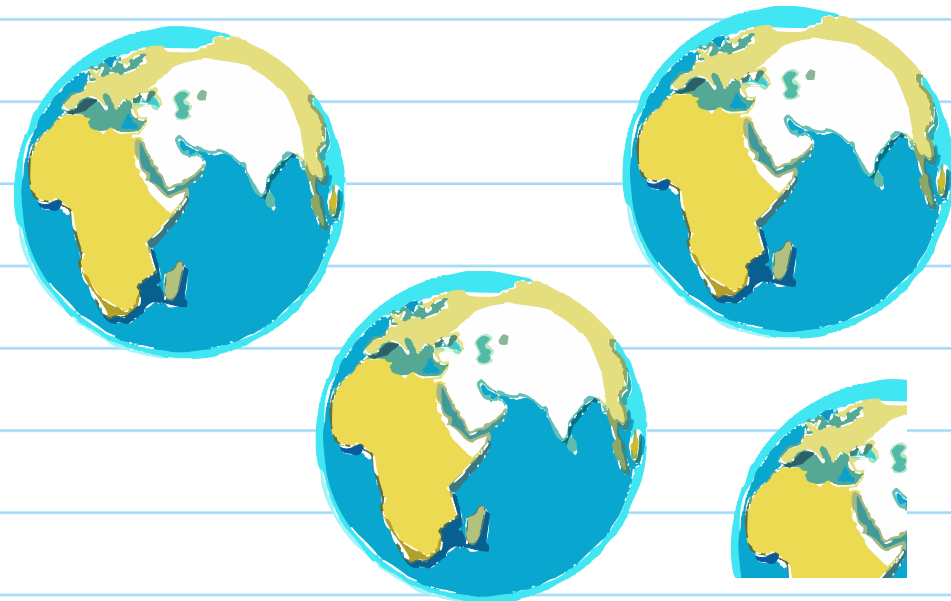
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Single-use products have a very short life span and are often neither recyclable nor reusable.

Favour the use of durable items such as:

- Reusable bottles rather than plastic bottles;
- Cloth rags rather than paper towels;
- Rechargeable batteries rather than normal batteries, etc.

If all the inhabitants of the planet consumed like Canadians, we would need more than **three planet Earths** to meet the needs.



90% of the materials that are extracted from the earth are not reused.

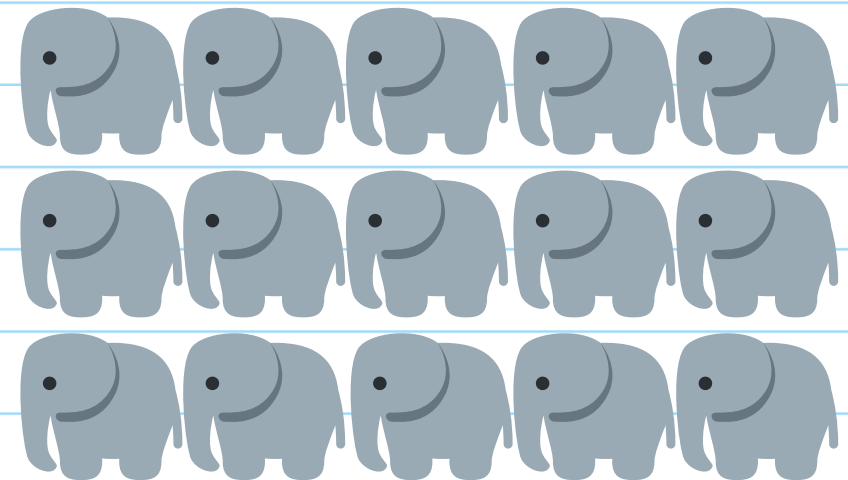
There are simple ways to reuse one's materials.

Examples:

- Use reusable dishes
- Use reusable bags
- Buy used clothes and items

2 billion tons of waste are produced each year worldwide, which is the equivalent of 15 elephants per second!

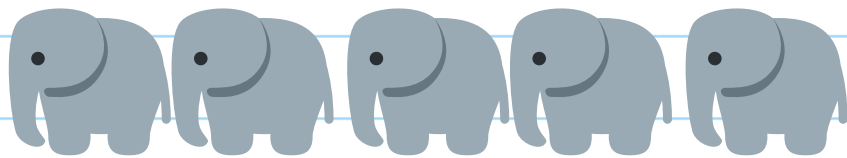
If nothing is done, Mother Earth will become a huge garbage dump.



If we only count the waste produced in our homes, in Quebec, we generate

25 tons of waste per minute.

That's the equivalent of the weight of five elephants! In one hour, that's almost 300 elephants.



Today, the things we buy, like cell phones and televisions sets, are made to last for a shorter amount of time than they were in our grandparents' day.



This is called built-in obsolescence.

In the time of our ancestors, things lasted much longer. For example, in California, there is a light bulb in an old firehouse that has endured since 1901! What do you think the life span of a lightbulb is these days? It is definitely not 118 years!

Did you know that 85% of our waste could be reused, recycled or composted?

Before throwing something away, ask yourself whether it should go in the garbage can!

Every time we **reuse** a product, we make sure that fewer things end up in the garbage can.

For example, in your lunch box:

- You can put your food in **reusable dishes** rather than in ziploc bags;
- You can pour juice into a **small refillable bottle** rather than buying small juice boxes.

This **reduces** the amount of waste you generate.



In Quebec, one million returnable containers are discarded every day even though they are all **recyclable**.

Remember to return your returnable containers to the merchant, it's environmentally friendly in addition to giving you more money!



Most plastics are numbered from 1 to 7.

Number 6 plastics are not recycled in the vast majority of communities.

If there is **no number**, it is **not recyclable**.

Avoid, when you can, using these products and consider reusing them before putting them in the trash.

