

## **Making toys with recyclable materials: A way of raising awareness of Environmental Ethics through play**

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### **ABSTRACT**

This article reports the results of a project that aimed to sensitize the students of a municipal school in the city of Divinópolis, MG, about the problem of garbage, seeking to integrate them into an ethical education focused on environmental preservation. Also, it sought to work on the concepts in relation to recycling and environmental awareness so that students could pass on to their families and the community the knowledge acquired in the school context regarding the awareness of the reuse of recyclable materials themselves as unusable.

**Keywords:** Clothing, Toys, Ethics, Recyclable materials, Awareness, Playful.

### **INTRODUCTION**

The "Garbage", known scientifically as solid waste can be worked on and reused on a daily basis. Reuse and reuse are actions that sensitize everyone, as they bring options to work pedagogically on the motor skills of creativity, solidarity, income generation, tactile perception and above all enables a new look at something that many see as "garbage", as something useful and profitable.

Toy workshops with recyclable materials in schools can contribute to the formation of critical citizens, because in addition to helping the planet, they develop other skills when making them, such as even the act of playing, which in today's times is little practiced due to technologies.

The art of building toys using recyclables may become the playful activity that can provide the most results in the formation of critical and autonomous individuals when it comes to responsibilities with the environment (Fernandes, 2008).

Carry out the workshops with materials brought by the students themselves, highlighting the importance of materials for daily use that would be discarded, such as pet bottles, cans, among others. Thus providing interaction and the ability to make their own toys.

### **METHODOLOGY**

During the months of May and June, workshops were held with approximately 101 students from the 6th to the 9th grade of the Padre Guaritá Municipal School in the city of Divinópolis, Minas Gerais, with the theme "Making Toys with Recyclable Materials". To this end, a research was carried out through a

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closed questionnaire composed of five questions with the objective of identifying the interest and awareness of ecological and environmental issues in these students.

In the first week, a lecture was held with students on the theme of the importance of environmental preservation, awareness and reuse of recyclable materials. From this proposal, students were encouraged to collect materials that could be recycled such as: pet bottles, cans, among other disposables, which were reused in the toy workshop. In the following weeks, the assembly of toys began, such as: the "ball in ball out", the "bilboquet" and tin feet.

## **RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

After the workshops, each of the 101 students answered five questions from the questionnaire, the students were asked what they thought of the importance of preserving the environment for future generations.

The data shown show that 95% of the students, that is, most of them, understand that it is important to preserve the environment so that future generations can enjoy natural assets, as these assets are increasingly becoming extinct. Another analysis carried out in the questionnaire was in relation to the manufacture of toys with recyclable materials.

In view of the answers obtained, we noticed that most students find the use of recyclable materials in the construction of toys interesting, because in addition to stimulating the reuse of recyclables, they are reducing the amount of garbage on the planet and increasing the amount of toys.

In the third question of the questionnaire, the students were asked if there is a separation of recyclable and non-recyclable waste in a family environment and in the community.

The data show that 67% of the students answered that in the community and in the family environment there is no separation of recyclable waste for organic waste, so this is a worrying fact, as we see the need for this separation nowadays so that there can be a reduction in the environmental impact.

Following the questionnaire, the students answered about the selective collection of recyclables in the city of Divinópolis.

From the students' answers, we noticed that 58% thought the way selective collection is done was bad, because in some regions there is no collection of these recyclable materials.

In the last question of the questionnaire, the students were asked to evaluate the toy-making workshops in physical education classes. From the data collected above, we observed that 37% of the students thought it was good, 28% excellent and 32% regular.

Having a good acceptance by the majority, and there was also a little rejection from some students, as they were not used to this type of activity in physical education classes.



## **FINAL CONSIDERATIONS**

According to the results obtained in this work, it is possible to conclude that the activities carried out in the workshops value the active participation of students and the ability to raise awareness in relation to environmental impacts. In addition to working on their motor skills, creativity and socialization.

When we associate this education with sustainability, it is another challenge that we have to overcome. Helping to change a culture where there are no healthy habits for us or nature, so it inspires us to seek to be better, so that we can mediate knowledge to students as the future teachers that we will be.



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