

Scrap Drive



Grade Level(s): K-8th

Time Required: 30 minutes

Location: At-home or PHAM

Background Information

During World War II, our supply for rubber, tin and other essential items was cut off. The war production ordered people to look in their homes to find any used or unused items to be recycled and used again to be collected for scrap drives. Scrap drives included rubber, metal, and tin cans. If you donated an item to the drive, you received a penny for every pound. These drives brought the community together to unite for a common purpose and they were a vital part of the American effort.

Examples of scrap drives:

- **Rubber:** Old tires, raincoats, boots and floor mats
- **Scrap Metal:** pots, pans, farm equipment, and children's metal toys
- **Paper:** organized paper drives by Scouts and local schools, paper bags, magazines, newspapers
- **Tin Can:** canned food and miscellaneous tin

Recycling: The process of reusing goods or waste materials to make something new. Benefits include sustainability of natural resources, less waste in landfills, and less pollution.

Objectives

- Students will make something that was used during WWII, learning more about this historical time through a hands-on activity.
- Students will understand the benefits of recycling and its larger impact on the community's environment.

Materials Needed

- Recycled materials, suggested list on next page

Discussion Questions/Topics

- In what ways was the wartime home front similar to the Covid-19 home front?
- In what ways do scrap drives or recycling bring a community together?

Activities

Your mission is to find reusable items around your house and make something that was used during WWII.

Here are a few examples of what you could make:

- Airplane
- Gas mask
- Tank
- Battleship
- Propaganda poster
- Helmet
- Binoculars
- Aviator goggles

Here are a few ideas of what you can reuse or recycle:

- Gallon jugs
- Soda cans
- Water bottle/ water bottle lids
- Paper plates
- Toilet paper roll/paper towel roll
- Newspaper, magazines, books, plastic bags
- Lids to drink
- Boxes/cardboard
- Anything you can think of and want to recycle!

Use these pictures for inspiration and have fun recycling!

