
▶ WASTE MINIMIZATION – GRADE 6

Big Ecological Idea #1:

International trade has advantages for people – but comes with harmful environmental impacts.

- a) A lot of energy is used to transport goods when they are imported from, or exported to, far away markets (particularly trucks, contributing to pollution and climate change).
- b) We can reduce our environmental impact by buying locally (e.g., we can buy potatoes grown in Ontario rather than from PEI).

- c) We can lessen our environmental impact by reducing the amount of garbage that needs to be transported. In 2001, Canadians sent 23 million tonnes of solid waste to landfills.
- d) Some communities in Ontario are exporting waste to the US (Michigan) because their local landfill sites are full. Dozens of trucks are hauling garbage hundreds of kilometers, creating tonnes of greenhouse gases that pollute the air.

Clustering of Expectations

SOCIAL STUDIES: Canada and World Connections: Canada's Links to the World (2005)

- 6z24 • identify and describe Canada's economic, political, social, and physical links with the United States and other regions of the world;
- 6z29 • identify products that Canada imports and exports (e.g., *imports*: fruit, vegetables, chemicals, motor vehicles; *exports*: newsprint, grain, machinery, timber, telecommunications, natural gas [waste]);
- 6z33 • identify Canada's connections with the United States through the media, trade, immigration, culture, technology, tourism, history, and geography (e.g., television programs, trade in vehicles, historical roots, common geographic features, shared waterways, common environmental initiatives);