



Patty Packrat's Thinking Cap Questions

*Follow-up activities to do
at home or in the classroom.*

1. Research an item's life history from "cradle to grave."
 - a. Find out what materials are needed to make it and where the materials come from (extracted from the earth or made from recycled products).
 - b. What's involved in the manufacturing process?
 - c. What's involved in marketing and selling it?
 - d. How do people use it?
 - e. What happens to it when its useful life is over (i.e. recycled, landfilled, etc.)?
2. There's a lot involved in finding a place to put a new landfill. What qualifications must be met before a property could be considered suitable for a landfill?
3. It's 2025, and you're a well-respected environmental scientist working on a new method of disposing of garbage. Describe your ideas.