

# Vocabulary

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**Cullet** – recycled broken pieces of glass.

**Incinerator** – an apparatus for burning waste at high temperatures until it turns to ash.

**Monomer** – a molecule that can be bonded to other identical molecules to form a polymer.

**Municipal waste** – commonly known as trash or garbage in the US and consists of everyday items that are discarded by the public.

**Polymer** – a chemical made of many repeating units, called monomers.

**Raw or virgin materials** – resources extracted from nature in their raw form, such as timber or metal ore.

**Recycle** – minimizing waste generation by recovering and reprocessing usable products that might otherwise become waste.

**Reduce** – make smaller or less in amount, degree or size.

**Resin codes** – a set of symbols developed by the Society of the Plastics Industry placed in plastics to identify the polymer type.

**Reuse** – using a product or component of municipal solid waste in its original form more than once; e.g., refilling a glass bottle that has been returned or using a coffee can to hold nuts and bolts.