



Understanding  
Our  
Environment

Grade Two SuperUnit

# Smart Consumers



## Sharing the Resources of our Planet

This SuperUnit is an inquiry into helping the learner understand our natural environment. Learners will be in charge of helping organisms thrive on our SSIS campus. Our learners will understand how their choices affect our environment. Learners will develop their ability to do *Sustainability Thinking* (the process of considering how our daily choices affect our environment).

# Knowing the lifecycle of materials



## Highlights of Learning Experiences

**Super Unit Launch:** The Smart Consumer Challenge

**Field Trips:** Waste recycling and management facility, and local grocery store

**Guest Speaker:** Irmi Kreuzer of SHOEFabrik--How can business owners in Vietnam minimize waste and contribute to a healthy environment?

**Project:** Art pieces made from repurposed materials and life stories of materials.

**Core Values:** Dedicated Service and Respect for All

**Super Unit Celebration:** Student presentations at the Conscious Consumer Cafe



## Focus on Learning by Subject

**Science:** Ecology and ecosystems, soil investigations, documenting scientific process

**Social Studies:** Environmental impact of consumer choices

**English:** Narrative nonfiction life stories of materials

**Math:** Data collection, graphing

**Art:** Create shopping bags from recycled T-Shirts

**Drama:** Life stories and personification of materials

**Library:** Personification in literature and social justice narrative nonfiction

**Music:** Repurposing materials to create musical instruments

**PE:** Responsible use of game materials, zero-waste movement games

**Vietnamese:** Investigating responsible consumption in Vietnam

# Materials can inform our choices.



## Questions to Ask your Child

- What materials do you use everyday?
- Where do you think these materials come from?
- What do you think happens to materials that are thrown in the trash?



## Home Learning

- Read and watch videos about where materials come from.
- Work together to repair or repurpose a broken, old or unused object to extend the life of the material.



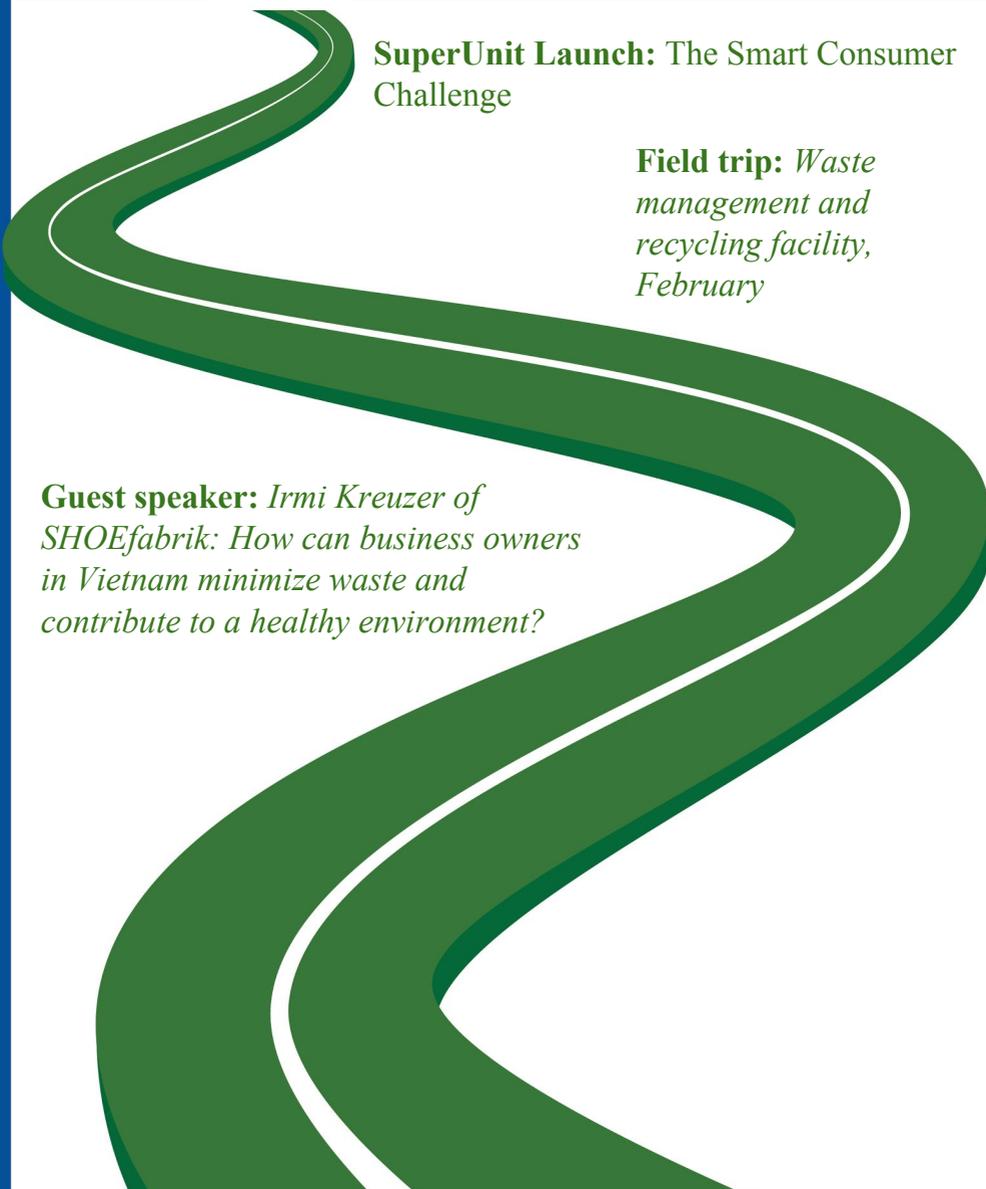
## Suggested Home Extensions

- Observe the different materials thrown away at home.
- Discuss patterns of materials purchased, consumed and disposed of at home.
- Visit a local park or waterway and observe and record any materials discarded there.
- Go grocery shopping with a family member to identify the different types of materials used for packaging and transport.



## Key Vocabulary

- Material
- Repurpose
- Reduce
- Bacteria
- Life cycle
- Consumer
- Refuse
- Invertebrate
- Organic
- Responsible
- Fungus
- Inorganic



**SuperUnit Launch: The Smart Consumer Challenge**

**Field trip:** *Waste management and recycling facility, February*

**Guest speaker:** *Irmi Kreuzer of SHOEfabrik: How can business owners in Vietnam minimize waste and contribute to a healthy environment?*

**SuperUnit Celebration:** *The Smart Consumer Cafe  
Wednesday, March 20, 2018 (8:15 -9:30am)*



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