Activity 10 – The Great Electrical Treasure Hunt!

“Ahoy thar – me hearties! There’s treasure in that there old equipment!”

Your electronic equipment contains gold and silver. In this activity hunt out how much you have at home and see if any could be mended.

You will need:
- Pencil and paper
- Ruler
- Coloured pens or pencils
- Recording Sheet (last page of this worksheet)
- Permission from a responsible adult to search your house
- A box to collect up any old electronic equipment
- Optional – pirate outfit and eye patch

Time required: 1-2 hrs

Suitable for all ages

Safety Tips:
- Be careful if old electronic equipment has become misshapen, feels hot or something has leaked.
- Never put old batteries or electronic equipment in your black bin bag rubbish as they can cause fires.

Instructions:
1. Your first task is to draw a map of your house using a ruler to draw straight lines and drawing out all the different rooms. This is your treasure map! You could even make it look old by dipping it in a dish of cold tea and ripping the edges.
2. Move from room to room (dressed as a pirate if you like!) looking for any electronic equipment – these might be computers, laptops, tablets, mobile phones, cables, plugs, wifi routers. Find out if they work.
3. Mark where you find them with a cross on your treasure map.
4. Record how many you find in each room on the recording sheet.
5. Discuss with your family how many you found, how many work and how many are broken. Are there items you don’t use? Could you give them to a friend or relative? Discuss what to do with the broken ones – could they be mended?

Watch videos related to this activity on our Zone website. Go to http://zone.recycledevon.org
**Useful Tip:**

Old electronic equipment is known as WEEE (Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment). There is large WEEE (e.g. ovens, washing machines) and small WEEE (e.g. phones, kettles, irons)

We have 10 Repair Cafés in Devon and there are over a hundred in the UK. This network and other repair shops could help mend your broken electricals.

**DID YOU KNOW?**

Every person in the UK creates about 3.3 tonnes of WEEE in their lifetime.

In the UK we purchase around 22.5 million phones every year. These phones will contain nearly 1 tonne of gold, over 9 tonnes of silver and over 300 tonnes of copper.

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**Extension Activity:-**

**English:** Can you imagine a world without all our electrical items! What would life be like? Write a story or poem, draw a picture or make a video describing what your new world would look like.

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**Mending old electricals:**

Ask around your local community or on the Recycle Devon Facebook page about places to repair anything that is broken. If you fancy a challenge yourself there are lots of places online to find videos of how to mend many common items – though ask an adult to help you with this.

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**Recycling old electricals:**

You should take old electrical items to your local Recycling Centre (local restrictions may apply during the coronavirus pandemic). Find your local recycling centre here: [https://www.devon.gov.uk/wasteandrecycling/centre/](https://www.devon.gov.uk/wasteandrecycling/centre/)

Find out what happens to your electrical items when they are recycled in our Zone website: [https://zone.recycledevon.org/electrical-equipment/](https://zone.recycledevon.org/electrical-equipment/)

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**Home Schooling**

This activity will help children with drawing and map making skills, which are essential for KS2 Geography and Maths.

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Share your pictures with us on Facebook, Twitter or Instagram by tagging @RecycleDevon #recycledevon
# WEEE Treasure Hunt Recording Sheet

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<th>Name of room</th>
<th>Number of electrical/electronic items</th>
<th>Number of broken electrical/electronic items</th>
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