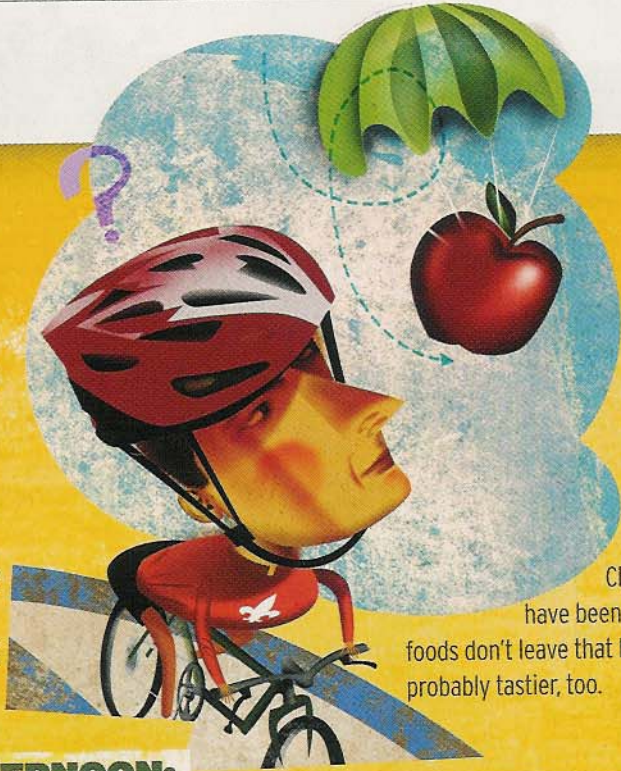


Time to head to school. You ...

- A. Get Mom or Dad to drive you, solo.
- B. Walk, bike or ride the bus.

Every car that's off the road saves an average of 31.7 pounds of carbon emissions per day, or 5.8 tons a year.



Apples are on the grocery list. You ...

- A. Buy whatever's at the supermarket.
- B. Buy apples and other produce at the local farmers' market.

Check the labels: Those apples might have been flown in from 3,000 miles away. Local foods don't leave that huge carbon footprint – and they're probably tastier, too.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON:

At soccer practice, you need to be sure to drink up. You ...

- A. Buy bottled water and then toss the bottle.
- B. Drink water from a reusable bottle.

Every hour, about 2.5 million water bottles are thrown away. That's a lot of trash.

After practice, you go grocery shopping with your parents. You ...

- A. Tell the clerk you want paper or plastic.
- B. Use the cloth bags you brought from home.

Reusable bags cut down on the need for manufacturing plastic and paper ones (which sucks up energy and materials). The Environmental Protection Agency says as many as 1 trillion plastic bags are consumed worldwide every year.

FRIDAY EVENING:

You're in charge of making the salad for dinner. You ...

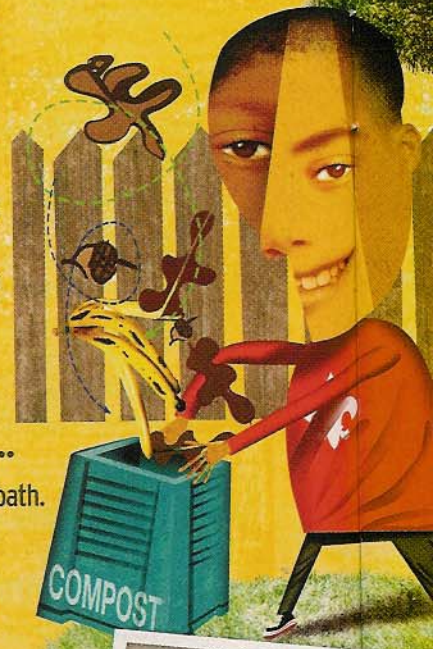
- A. Toss the veggie scraps in the garbage.
- B. Toss the veggie scraps in the compost pail.

Why add to the landfill? Composting is an easy way to put life back into the soil. Check out www.boyslife.org for an easy-to-make compost bin.

Soccer practice left you smelling not so great. You ...

- A. Fill up the bathtub and take a bath.
- B. Take a short shower.

A four-minute shower uses about 20 gallons of water (with a low-flow shower head, only 10 gallons), while an average bath takes 40.



Last May, Scouts from Troop 5, Milton, Mass., represented the United States at a United Nations environmental youth program in Sweden: Mike Browne, 17; Robert Hudson, 14; Alex Jamal, 15; Matt Morris, 14; and Graham Strang, 16. ¶ Their project, Get the Lead Out of Fishing, studied how wildlife is harmed by the 480 million lead weights that anglers lose every year. It has won lots of awards, including a 2007 President's Environmental Youth Award. Research from the project is being used in legislation to ban lead from fishing. So far, the guys have collected and recycled nearly 60 pounds of lead. ¶ Team leader Eagle Scout Mike Browne says, "It all started when I was 6 and asked my dad what happened to the weights we lost while fishing." www.boyslife.org/links/getlead

