

## Classroom Activity: Nestlé's work to help create a waste-free future

### Background

With the company's history dating back to the 1860s, Nestlé is the largest food & beverage company in the world. Founded by Henri Nestlé in Vevey, Switzerland, the company got its start by developing infant formula for mothers who could not breastfeed. Today, the company's U.S. food and beverage portfolio are in nearly every home in the U.S. and includes some of the most recognizable brands such as Coffee mate, DiGiorno and Nestlé Toll House.



Nestlé has ambitious global sustainability goals, including making all its packaging reusable or recyclable. Its vision is that none of its packaging, including plastics, ends up in landfill or as litter. Nestlé is working to help create a waste-free future by designing its packaging to be as sustainable as possible, including:

- Designing its packaging to use less materials, leveraging reusable and refillable systems, and testing new alternative materials to improve recyclability, while maintaining the quality and safety of its foods and beverages.
- Helping upgrade recycling infrastructure in the U.S., bolster packaging materials collection, and helping expand the availability of recycled content.
- Partnering with leading organizations and participating in innovative collaborations that are charting a path to a circular economy for packaging.

### Video Format

A 3-minute video that covers:

- ❖ Working as a Packaging Sustainability Engineer

### **RISE Up and Get Noticed**

Completing a RISE Up training from the NRF Foundation can provide you with the skills to help you get a job with Nestlé and beyond.

*From the company: At Nestlé we're determined to challenge the status quo and be better tomorrow than we are today. We embrace our entrepreneurial culture and have created a workplace where collaboration is essential, courage is rewarded, speed is expected, and agility is the norm to delight our consumers every single day. Here, you will find limitless opportunities to learn and advance your career in supply chain and feel empowered to succeed in the workplace and beyond. Because our focus is not only on nourishing our customers, but also about enriching you.*

Sign up to hear about what's happening at Nestlé, including new job opportunities, [here](#).

- ❖ Working on a team and meeting business needs
- ❖ Designing packaging to help improve recyclability

## Activity

Are you ready to jump into a real-life exercise? Click on the links below to watch the video and read more about Nestlé's sustainable packaging strategy. Then solve the problem and answer the following questions to gain a deeper understanding of what it's like to be a Packaging Sustainability Engineer!

Links:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GH8PZKopdz0>

<https://www.nestle.com/sustainability/waste-reduction/packaging-strategy>

## Problem

An organization wants to add recycled plastic into their plastic canisters to help ensure they are playing their part to make packaging more sustainable. If the organization adds 40% recycled plastic into a 50-gram canister, how much recycled plastic in grams is used to make up this canister? If the organization produces 50,000 canisters a month, how many kilograms (kg) of recycled plastic would they be using per year?

## Questions:

- 1. Based on the case study, briefly explain Nestlé's sustainability commitment and its packaging strategy.**
- 2. Name Nestlé's key reason for their pledge and describe in your own words why is it so important to our environment.**
- 3. Share some ways Nestlé can support infrastructure in your community to help make recycling easier.**
- 4. Describe a business you would like to start and explain how you would design your packaging material to be sustainable.**

