The purpose of this lesson is to engage the students in making their homes environmental friendly and their lives healthier. As a result of this activity, students will learn what they have in their homes which can cause harm to their health and the environment.

The lesson addressed the following MDC Learning Outcomes:
#3. Solve problems using critical and creative thinking and scientific reasoning
#4. Formulate strategies to locate, evaluate, and apply information
#6. Create strategies that can be used to fulfill personal, civic, and social responsibilities
10. Describe how natural systems function and recognize the impact of humans on the environment

Activity:
In preparation for class, students will review:
www.webmd.com/healthy-home-health-check/default.htm
www.ewg.org/healthy-home-tips/checklist
www.ewg.org/cosmeticsdatabase.com

Related suggested reading:
Slow Death by Rubber Duck: How the Toxic Chemistry of Everyday Life Affects Our Health by Rick Smith
Exposed: The Toxic Chemistry of Everyday Products and What’s at Stake for American Power by Mark Schapiro
The Body Toxic by Christina Gillham

Related suggested films/documentaries:
Blue Vinyl http://www.docurama.com/docurama/blue-vinyl/
"The Story of Cosmetics" by Annie Leonard (link to watch)  https://storyofstuff.org/movies/story-of-cosmetics/

Instructions for Activity:
1. Students will go through their home areas and decide what is hazardous to their health and to the environment - they will identify 5 items
2. Students will clean out/remove/replace those 5 items that they consider hazardous to their health and their environment
3. Students will present their outcome to the class
4. Students will discuss each other’s outcomes
5. Students will plan to follow through with their findings and make plans for future “clean-ups”