

Name _____



Main Idea Line

Directions: Read the passage carefully. Decide which single sentence best expresses the main idea of the passage. Highlight or underline that sentence.

The Importance of Recycling

- (1) Every year, millions of tons of trash end up in landfills, where it can take centuries to break down.
- (2) Recycling helps reduce the amount of waste by turning old items into new materials.
- (3) For example, aluminum cans can be melted and reshaped into fresh cans within weeks.
- (4) Plastic bottles can be transformed into clothing fibers or even new containers.
- (5) Recycling paper saves trees, which in turn protects animal habitats and reduces carbon dioxide in the air.
- (6) Communities that recycle also spend less money on waste disposal, freeing up funds for schools and parks.
- (7) By recycling, people protect the planet's resources and ensure a cleaner, healthier environment for the future.

Question: Which sentence (write the number) is the **topic sentence** that best states the main idea? Write it down here: