

Increasing Recycling Program Participation and Learning

Have a contest!

- 🌍 Compete state-wide or nationally in Keep America Beautiful's Recycle Bowl with other schools to see who recycles most (www.recycle-bowl.org)!
- 🌍 Host a best decorated bin contest. Compete between classes or grades to make ordinary recycling bins extraordinary in classrooms or common areas.
- 🌍 Have students create a specific waste reduction campaign (i.e. reusable water bottles, waste free lunches, etc) and set, measure, and announce the campaign's goals and outcomes
- 🌍 Create an EcoArt exhibit featuring reused or recycled materials

Educate!

- 🌍 Use student groups to educate other students and staff about what, where and how to recycle in your school (student council, recycling club or group, speech class, etc)
- 🌍 Have a school assembly celebrating new changes to the recycling program and new and exciting opportunities for students to get involved
- 🌍 Include your school's recycling efforts in your lessons and daily classroom tasks, giving students hands on learning experience while building important life skills
 - Conduct a school or class waste audit! This is a great tool for meeting learning goals while gaining useful information for school and community use.
 - Create a student written recycling, waste reduction, and/or compost newsletter or include a "waste-less tip of the month" in existing publications
 - Create a classroom or school garden worm composting bin to observe "nature's recyclers" all year while reducing your school's waste!

- Have students create pamphlets or brochures to distribute to the whole school for home use about waste reduction actions, waste free lunches, community/school recycling efforts, etc.
 - Create a skit, play, or other educational entertainment related to waste reduction, litter, etc. that students can perform in class or an assembly.
- 🌍 Take a *free* field trip to a local landfill, compost or recycling facility.
 - 🌍 Encourage art projects using reused or recycled materials and display them around the school
 - 🌍 Bring in a guest speaker for a presentation or curriculum enriching lesson tailored to the standards and related to waste reduction. Contact Rural Action's Zero Waste Program zerowaste@ruralaction.org or (740) 677-4047

Engage Students!

- 🌍 Have students organize an end of the year reusable school supplies drive for the classroom or whole school to save lightly used/unused supplies for next school year. The supplies could either be used in classes in need or donated back to students that may not be able to afford new supplies.
- 🌍 Encourage students to create and sign a pledge for their own waste reduction efforts at school and home
- 🌍 Have students create recycling or waste reduction related posters or bulletin boards with educational tips, updates about the school's efforts, and list actions for school and home to hang in common areas (halls, computer labs, library, etc)