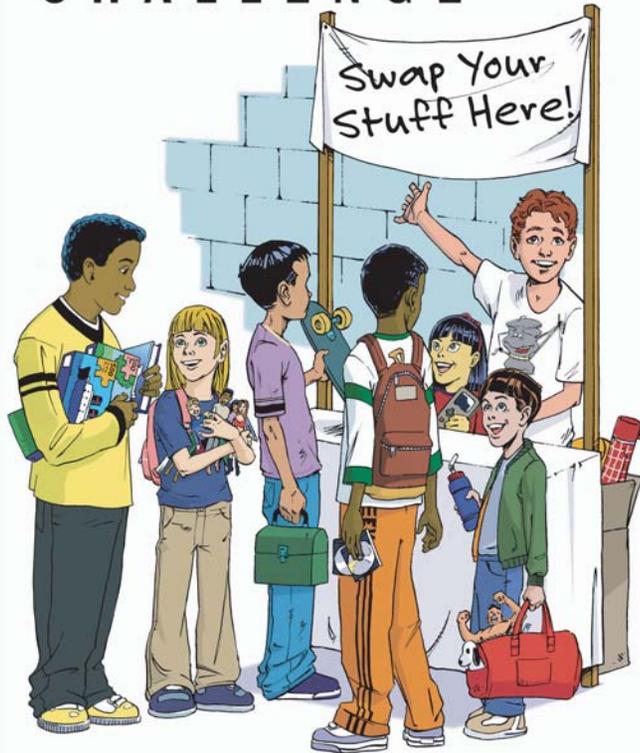


TrashMasters!™
REDUCE & REUSE
CHALLENGE



Elementary Division
Brooklyn Borough
Runner-Up

PS 185
Walter Kassenbrock

NEW YORK CITY DEPARTMENT OF SANITATION

2010 GOLDEN APPLE AWARDS

This certificate is awarded with the sincere appreciation and esteem of a grateful Department and City in recognition of your school's efforts to help make New York City shine.



City of New York, Michael R. Bloomberg, Mayor
Department of Sanitation, John J. Doherty, Commissioner
Bureau of Waste Prevention, Reuse and Recycling, Robert Lange, Director


John J. Doherty, Commissioner
June, 2010

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REDUCE and REUSE to Make the Earth Greener for Earth Day

p.s. Everyday is Earth Day!

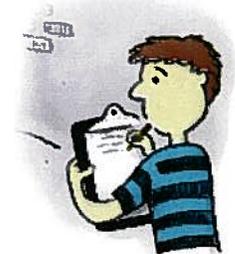
Objectives

- To make PS 185 a greener school by reducing the amount of waste we produce everyday.
- we want to engage all students to reduce waste at lunch, and reduce paper waste.
 - and educate teachers, staff, students, and their families about how to reduce waste.



Activities

1. We did Go Green Team projects to understand the waste stream:
 - Built a modern sanitary landfill
 - Made homemade paper
 - Made reused paper pads
 - Read and discussed The Lorax
 - Read and discussed Melvin Berger's Where does all the Garbage Go?
 - Played charades of the best ways to reduce waste and go green
 - Found symbols and discussed terms on products that reuse materials
2. Green Design Expo: Created Green Designs out of reused and recycled materials for a Green Design Expo, and plan to include projects on our website for all teachers and students to see
3. Go Green Report Card: our Go Green Team took a look at how much waste the school is producing.
4. After school enrichment program, "Making crafts out of recycled materials"
5. Earth Day Assembly:
 - we told the entire student body in our Earth Day assembly how they can be a better friend to the Earth in an student-created presentation.
 - In our assembly we told everyone how much garbage we produce in the school and asked them to work hard to be more green, reusing single sided paper, recognizing symbols, etc.
6. Earth Day Promises:
 - The Go Green Team created take-home information about how to reduce waste for all 830 students, "10 things you can do be more Green"
 - We then asked students to promise their favorite way to be a better friend to the Earth, in our Earth Day Promise Tree.
7. Website: All of our resources on our new website for all students and families, and other K-5 schools interested in reducing waste.
7. Selling reusable water bottles and donating reusable shopping bags to each teacher and parents



Results achieved

- Our Go Green Design Exposition is displayed proudly outside the office and auditorium and sparking new creative ideas!
- It is a school-wide awareness campaign, and we're all trying to be more green.
 - We have a new Go Green Team of students that are champions for waste reduction in the school and in their community.
 - We have a PTA Committee of parents and teachers that are committed to continuing waste reduction activities.
 - Our administration is strongly supportive of green efforts and offering rewards to classes who make improvements.

Go Green Report, Go Green 109: K-5 Projects to Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle, explains all of the activities we did as a Go Green Team, so no students or teachers will be left out. It's also a way for us to share tips with our families and community.

- We're going to monitor our waste output, and hope by next Earth Day our Go Green Report Cards and waste bins will show a big improvement.

Who was part of the Go Green Team 2010?



K&1st Grade Assembly TrashMasters Team

Kayla Burgoa 4-508
Ayshe Kerim 4-508
Mahmoud Talbek 4-506

2nd /3rd Grade Assembly TrashMasters Team

Jessica Huang 40403
Joomee Lee 0509 ***
Lizett Terezaca 4-509 **

4th/5th Grade TrashMasters Team

Dede 45-6
Shivanie Dhamija 401
Stephanie Krokeas 401
Valerie Ng 401

Go Green Team Coordinators

Dolores Lozupone, Technology Coordinator, PS 185 K, 718-745-6610 Ext. 4023,
dlozupo@schools.nyc.gov, assistant to Go Green Team for assembly, Awards co-ordinator
Claudine Tariche, Teacher, PS 185, after-school enrichment leader
Deanna Novak, parent volunteer, website, awards binders and after-school workshops

What is the Go Green Team?

What is the The Go-Green Team?

The Go-Green Team is a Conservation Club, and members make a personal commitment to learn about and help protect the environment and natural resources in NYC. They Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle. They observe, conserve, and spread the word about reduction waste in the school and city. If you are completing any "Green" projects with your classroom, in your home, or in your community, and you sharing them with other students and teachers, that makes you a member of the Go-Green Team.

How to Share Your Green Ideas

We'll also be posting green projects on this website so all our students and teachers can try them too. We want to see your green ideas. Share yours today! Email your Go-Green ideas and projects to: gogreen185 [at]yahoo[dot]com

What are the Goals of the Go-Green Team?

To measure, improve, and monitor waste reduction in our school, under the guidance of the Go-Green Committee.

Become part of the team!
email your go-green ideas and projects to:
[gogreen185 \[at\] yahoo \[dot \] com](mailto:gogreen185@yahoo.com)

What is the Go-Green Committee?

The go-green committee and go-green team are not just about recycling, but about reducing all waste, and conserving our resources. We'll be supporting projects in the future that conserve energy, conserve water, and more! The Go-Green Committee is comprised of teachers, parents, staff, and members of student council. Committee members meet once a month to discuss projects and ideas that will engage students in the conservation club, "The Go-Green Team". They also facilitate the Club's after-school meetings and enrichment activities.

Goals of the Go-Green Committee: We encourage all students to be part of the Go-Green Team! Conserving resources and reducing waste is part of what makes our students responsible & engaged citizens, confronting environmental issues within the school & community. Our goals for energy and waste reduction are defined by the NYC Department of Sanitation.

Next Meeting of the Go-Green Committee:

To Participate contact: gogreen185 [at] yahoo [dot] com

posted online at: <http://gogreen185.wordpress.com/about/>

Activity 1: Go Green Team Projects to understand the waste stream

Project: Built a modern sanitary landfill and have a conversation about conservation

Mrs. Tariche's after-school enrichment group and conservation club, The Go-Green Team built a modern sanitary landfill, which they'll be observing over the next few months. What's going to happen to all that garbage?



The Go-Green Team builds a modern sanitary landfill using soil, a layer of plastic and gravel, a pile of garbage, and some compost.

Here is a photo of our landfill one month later. Everyone agrees, **"It smells like the park!"** We're making observations each week as things decompose (see link to decomposition timeline below).



From our Conversation About Conservation:

What is a Conservation Club? We're learning how to be better friends to the Earth.

What does conserve mean? Reduce, Reuse, Borrow, Recycle, Save, keep a long time

What do we want to conserve? trees, plants, animals, metals, electricity, energy, paper, water, glass, plastic, resources

What are resources? Things that come from nature. Things we use everyday to build and live.

How do we conserve? We need garbage, but we can sort in order to reduce, reuse and recycle, so garbage doesn't build up in landfills.

[Download PDF of sorting poster] [With your help, it's all falling into place.](#) Students received this recycling guide poster to take home.

What is a landfill? Read Melvin Berger's [Where does all the Garbage Go?](#)

How long does it take for things to decompose?

[Download PDF of Decomposition chart from NYC Teachers' RRResource Guide] [Decomposition Timeline](#)

How do we build a landfill? Students built a landfill and talked about ways they can reduce waste getting into the landfill.

[Download PDF of Lesson from nyc.gov] [NYC Teachers' RRResource Guide: Chapter 1, What is Waste?](#) instructions for building a landfill are on page 1-58-1-59

online at: <http://gogreen185.wordpress.com/2010/02/05/building-a-landfill/>

Project: Make homemade paper and REDUCING and REUSING before RECYCLING if you can.

This project was a lot of fun and we talked about what products are made of, and what kind of waste is produced when making new things. We also emphasized the order of waste prevention. FIRST, REDUCE. SECOND, REUSE. THIRD, RECYCLE. This homemade recycled paper uses old papers from the recycle bin.

Why not just let these old papers be recycled and buy some new recycled paper? We're saving energy and resources. Even recycling, a great environmental effort, takes energy to ship and transport, and resources to process and transform into something new. Plus, this is much more fun!

After our reading and discussion about [Choosing and Making Responsible THNEEDS \(things we need\)](#) Mrs. Tariche's after-school Go-Green Team formed two groups and CREATED two new environmentally-friendly products.

1. 100% reused paper pads: Made from one-sided paper from our school recycle bins, these paper pads are a great way to reuse our school resources! To make them, we chose one-sided sheets from the recycle bin, cut them in half, punched a hole in the top, and connected them with a brass fastener.

2. 100% recycled paper: Made from shredded junk mail and water, blended to a pulp. We were able to couch our pulp into new paper. Great things about this product are, we're reusing paper, there are no byproducts, it's great for the environment, each piece is unique and hand-crafted, and it's completely bio-degradable, and recyclable! Plus it's a lot of fun to make! Here are our full instructions on how to make paper in the classroom. Making paper is not difficult, and nothing new. In the 19th century, people used old cloths and rags to make new paper (*from: [American Forest & Paper Association, Recycling Starts with You!](#)*)

Supplies:

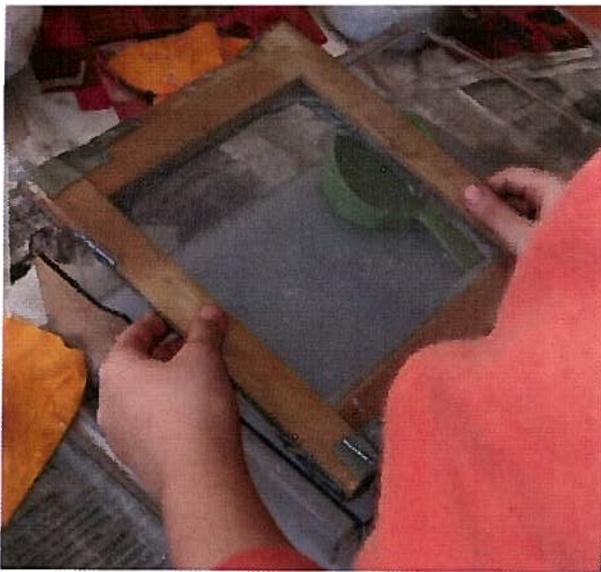
1. Paper (we used shredded junk mail)
2. Blender or masher
3. Newspaper or tablecloth to protect desks
4. Felt or other absorbent material
5. Paper Towels
6. Sponges
7. Deckle and Screen (see below how to make one)
8. Basin large enough to fit screen
9. Scoop to pour pulp mixture over screen

Here's a Step-by-Step of our paper company in action:

Step 1. Make a pulp of recycled paper

Our paper was preshredded and preblended with water to save time. in class. Different methods will produce different kinds of paper. For example, you could use just shredded paper, tear paper into small pieces by hand, and ieth e use a blender for finer paper, or mash up the paper and let it soak for a while to soften.

We loosely filled a blender about 2/3 full of shredded paper, and covered the paper with water until the blender was about 3/4 full. We did this twice to make about 10 sheets of paper.



Step 2. create a deckle and screen

The screen needs to be stretched over a wood frame large enough to create a sheet of paper. Our was made with an old scrap of window screen and some recycled wooden crate. They screen was tightly stretched over the frame and all was stapled together. Duct tape was used to cover sharp edges. Any old frames can be used. The deckle is the mold for the paper edges. We used another wooden fram created from the recycled crate, and also used an old cigar box as a deckle. The deckle should fit tightly against the screen so edges are nice and square.

Step 3. Set up your work area

The basin should be placed on protective paper or cloth and filled with a mixture of pulp and water. To our pulp mixture we added 1 liter of extra water. Aside the bin we prepared a felt sheet and sponge for couching the paper, and a paper towel, labeled with the student's name for a drying area. The deckle is placed on top of the screen over the bin.

Step 4: Pour the paper

We found it easiest to use a measuring scoop to lift out the pulp water and pour it into the deckle. It took about 5 or 6 scoops to cover all of the area evenly, although some students preferred a thicker paper with more pulp needed.

Let the water drain out of the screen into the basin and then carefully lift the deckle straight up. You can also dip the entire deckle and screen into the basin and carefully shuffle it under water, lifting slowly to fill the deckle, but this is a little messier and more time consuming.

Step 5: Couch the pulp into paper.

After draining excess water and lifting off the deckle, flip the screen onto the absorbent felt. With the screen still on the paper, use the sponge to lift off excess water and squeeze the sponge it into the basin occasionally. When the paper seems to be more damp than soggy, carefully lift the screen, starting from one corner.



Step 6: Put aside paper to dry

The paper can then be lifted off the felt and placed on a paper towel to dry. Label each paper towel with the students name.

It should take about 24 hours for the paper to dry completely.

Available in the Go-Green Library:

The Lorax, by Dr. Seuss

The Lorax Video, ~25 minutes

The [RRResource Guide](#) from NYC.gov (contains lesson plans and activities for grades K-5.)

- Making paper activity, [Chapter5 Followups.pdf](#) pg 16, 17 RRR 5-31

More examples of paper making can be found online, here is a good one: [Video on making paper with fourth graders](#)

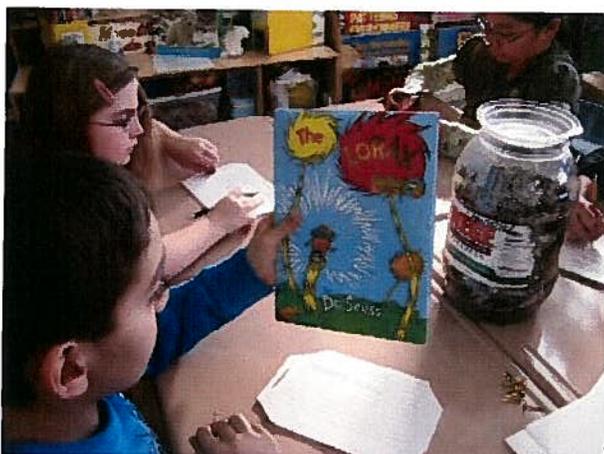
online at: <http://gogreen185.wordpress.com/2010/02/25/making-paper-in-the-classroom/>

Project: Make reused paper pads and discuss how to make and choose responsible products

Go-Green Team Session 2

Choosing and Making responsible Thneeds (things we all need!) includes a reading of *The Lorax*, and making homemade recycled paper products!

What is a Thneed? It's a thing we all need. We purchase things we need everyday and some of us have started to notice new terms on packaging, "bio-degradable", "renewable resources", "% recycled materials". What do these things mean? As a group we read the book *The Lorax*, by Dr. Seuss (which is also available in a 25 minute video). We talked about some of the things we see that use recycled materials, and we defined some of these terms. We then made paper, [Click Here](#) to see how!



Some definitions from our group, and how they relate to *The Lorax*.

byproducts: A byproduct is something you create in the process of making something else. The Onceler created Thneeds, but he also created gluppity-glup and sloppity-slop. They were byproducts.

bio-degradable: If a product can be broken down by living things, it is bio-degradable, and is better for the environment. Gluppity-glup and sloppity-slop were not breaking down in the environment. They were not bio-degradable.

environment: Your environment is your surroundings. Our environment contains many complex things that help living organisms survive. When the Onceler arrived, the environment was full of life, clean air and water, and many living organisms that depended upon each other. When he left, the environment was no longer clean, and the way he treated it was not sustainable. After a while, it could no longer sustain life for the bears, the birds, or the fish. They had to move somewhere else, to an environment that was greener.

renewable resources: If you can replace a resource as fast as you are using it, it is renewable. The Onceler was cutting down trees at a really fast rate, and how many did he plant? Zero. In the end he says, "Unless somebody cares an awful lot, nothing will ever change," and offers a seed of the tree as a way to rebuild the environment. Our group thought, maybe he could have been planting seeds all along, and let them grow. Then he still could have used them. Using resources wisely and guarding their environment can ensure they are still renewable.

recycled materials: If a product says it contains 50% recycled materials, for example paper, that means that 50%, or half of the paper comes from paper that was already used and recycled, and the other half comes from trees. For more info about recycling stream in NYC see [NYC Teachers' RRResource Guide: RRR You Ready?](#)

Thneed: Thneed is a Dr. Seuss word which means, "thing we need". At first, The Onceler said what we all needed was his product, but after the environment was ruined, what we really need, he said, were more trees.

We asked the very IMPORTANT QUESTION: Do you think the people buying the Thneeds knew what was happening to the environment? Did they know about the bears, the birds, and the fish? Probably not. A lot of times when we buy something we need we are depending upon companies to be responsible and protect the resources they use. It's helpful if they write on packaging terms like, "biodegradable", and "60% recycled materials", and it's wonderful if we ask before we buy something, "what is this made of?" and "do I really need it?" and here's something fun, "can I make it myself?"

After our reading and discussion we formed two groups and CREATED two new environmentally-friendly products.

1. 100% recycled paper: Made from shredded junk mail and water, blended to a pulp. We were able to couch our pulp into new paper. Great things about this product are, we're reusing paper, there are no bi-products, it's great for the environment, each piece is unique and hand-crafted, and it's completely bio-degradable, and recyclable! Plus it's a lot of fun to make! Here are our full instructions on how to make paper in the classroom. Making paper is not difficult, and nothing new. In the 19th century, people used old cloths and rags to make new paper (*from: [American Forest & Paper Association, Recycling Starts with You!](#)*)

For a brief Step-by-Step of our paper company in action [Click Here!](#)

2. 100% reused paper pads: Made from one-sided paper from our school recycle bins, these paper pads are a great way to reuse our school resources! To make them, we chose one-sided sheets from the recycle bin, cut them in half, punched a hole in the top, and connected them with a brass fastener.

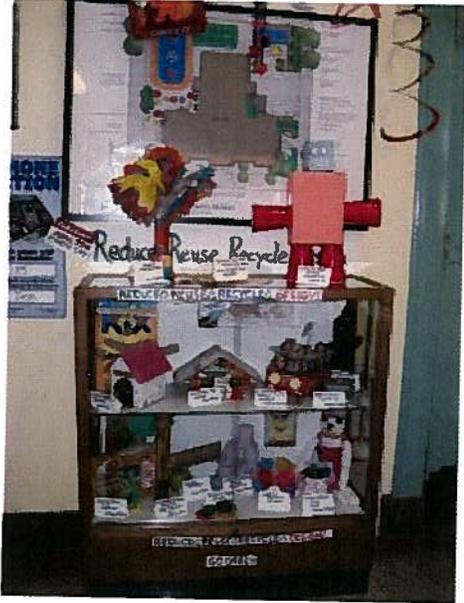
Helpful materials for discussion available in the Go-Green Library:

- *The Lorax* Video (~25 minutes)
- *The Lorax*, by Dr. Seuss
- The [RRResource Guide](#) from NYC.gov (contains lesson plans and activities for grades K-5.)
 - Making paper activity, [Chapter5 Followups.pdf](#) pg 16, 17 RRR 5-31
 - [RRResource Guide](#) page 1-49. Identify what we throw away: Renewable, Non-Renewable, Biodegradable, non-biodegradable
- More examples of paper making can be found online by searching for "making paper videos" here is a good one. [Video on making paper with fourth graders](#)

online at: <http://gogreen185.wordpress.com/2010/02/25/choosing-and-making-responsible-thneeds/>

Activity 2: Go Green Design Exposition

Outside the auditorium, the Go Green Team is displaying some inspiring new ways to reuse and recycle materials creatively. Come see a fun variety of musical instruments, decorations, games, and toys, and create your own designs.



Project: Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, DESIGN!

For this 3rd session of Mrs. Tariche's after-school Go-Green team, we joined together to look at "Green Design" techniques. Reusing our resources is a great way to help the environment, and a really fun way to be creative. We created Green Designs out of reused and recycled materials for a Green Design Expo, and plan to include projects on our website for all teachers and students to see

We first reviewed some terms from our first two sessions, [Our Conversation about Conservation](#), and [Choosing and Making Responsible THNEEDS \(things we need\)](#).

We took a look at some designs we see everyday. We read labeling to discover what made them green. Some great examples include:

- Paper towels made with 60% recycled fibers and offering choose-a-size sheets (Scott Naturals)
- Water bottles with smaller caps and redesigned shape to use 20% less plastic (Poland Springs)
- Tea bags that use no strings, tags, staples, or individual wrappers to save 3.5 million pounds of waste from landfills (Celestial Seasonings)
- Cereal boxes that are 10% smaller with the same amount of cereal, saving over 1,300,000 gallons of water, 940,000 KWh of energy, and 1444 tons of paperboard. (Envirokidz)

The students were then given a CHALLENGE to come up with a creative design by reusing found



items.

These designs will be featured in our **Go-Green Exhibition** outside the auditorium for Earth Day 2010.

Online at: <http://gogreen185.wordpress.com/2010/02/28/reduce-reuse-recycle-design/>

Activity 3: Go Green Report Cards

Our administration is strongly supportive of green efforts and offering rewards to classes who make improvements. We've distributed these to all teachers with the following note:

Go-Green Report Cards

How green is your classroom? Are you green in the cafeteria too? If you think your class is taking steps to be green, use the report cards to let the Go-Green Committee know. We're offering rewards to the greenest classes that Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle. Remember, a green classroom is a CLEAN classroom. We need your help in the cafeteria especially. Help us keep it green!

GO-GREEN CLASSROOM REPORT CARD

Class: _____ Month : _____

BEING GREEN : REDUCE

Reduce: In our classroom we used both sides of the paper.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.

BEING GREEN : REUSE

Reuse: In our classroom we use scraps of construction for other projects.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.

BEING GREEN : RECYCLE

Recycle: In our classroom we separate our trash in the correct recycle can.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.

SEEING GREEN: HOW DOES OUR ROOM LOOK?

When we leave our classroom for the day, the floor is clean of scrap paper.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.

Activity 4: After school enrichment program, "Making crafts out of recycled materials"

The Go Green Team wasn't the only group of students making projects from found materials. All over the school, teachers were collecting recyclable materials and reusing them creatively. One teacher did an afterschool enrichment program called, "Making crafts out of recycled materials." We included some designs in our Go Green Expo, and the kids had a great time thinking creatively with items that are usually recycled or discarded.

Some projects included in the expo are listed below. We plan to include instructions for these on our website so everyone can try them.

- Crayons made from melted broken crayons
- Toys made from old packaging
- Decorative spiral made from packaging
- Decorative pyramid made from straws
- Pocketbook made from cracker box
- Stuffed Cat made from pair of socks and old pair of shorts
- Stuffed Bear made from an old pair of gloves
- Jacob's Ladder made from old MTA cards and cassette tape
- Wallet made from soy milk carton and duct tape
- Storage containers made from packaging
- Decorative wind chime made from tape roll and glue stick cap
- Robot made from packaging and discarded cups
- Flower made from paper towel tube and tissue paper

Activity 5: Earth Day Assembly

Go Green Earth Day Assembly, April 22, 2010 PROGRAM

Entrance song, "What a Wonderful World"

1. Welcome – Ms. Lozupone
2. Trashmasters! Video : [Waste Side Story](#) (20 minutes)

TRASHMASTERS!

"Waste Side Story"

[dial-up](#) or [broadband](#)

3. RRR – One student from each class must come to the stage and correctly chose the bin for their item (three bins on stage: blue, green, trash)
4. Power Point presentation by Trashmasters from Go Green Team
5. Q & A



The Go Green Committee covered the stage with 20 garbage bags, filled with air. It was an impressive pile of garbage, and we were able to show the students HALF of what our school creates every day. Here are facts we uncovered as a Go Green Team and shared with the students during the assembly:

Revealed: How Much Garbage We Create at PS 185

- We use 1000 styrofoam trays a day, except for Trayless Tuesdays (more info about trayless tuesdays at <http://gogreen185.wordpress.com/whats-new/> if you scroll down)
- and 1000 milk cartons per day
- breakfast creates 5-6 black bags of waste, and 2 recycling bags
- each lunch (3 periods) creates 8 black backs, and 3 recycling bags
- each day we average 4 black bags on the 2nd floor, and 3 bags on every other floor

Some important points

1. If we can make a real improvement in the lunchroom Mr. Llinas has promised rewards! We can't guarantee what at this point, but we have those green report cards to help measure the difference, and the lunch area is super key.
2. Our biggest problem area in the school is the cafeteria so we really need to have ALL the kids and staff commit to changing habits at mealtimes. We're going to get extra blue bins (for bottles, papers, etc) in the lunchroom, and want them to be used and used properly. We're also ordering extra paper bins to be sure each room is recycling paper.
3. The custodians ask that we really drive home that containers being recycled need to be emptied before being recycled. One said, "if you wouldn't throw milk in the recycling container at home, why would you do that at school?"

online at: <http://gogreen185.wordpress.com/2010/04/22/earth-day-assembly/>

Project: K-1st Grade Assembly Slideshow Created by Go Green Team Students

K-1 Assembly – notes written by students to correspond with the slides.

Slide 2: Clean up

- If you don't clean up the earth it becomes dirty.
- Your neighborhood won't look pretty if you don't clean after yourself.

Slide 3: Save Energy

- Shut the lights off when you leave your room or house.
- Use CFL light bulbs; they save energy.

Slide 4: Don't Litter

- If there's litter in the street your neighborhood will smell bad
- Litter can bring rats in your neighborhood.

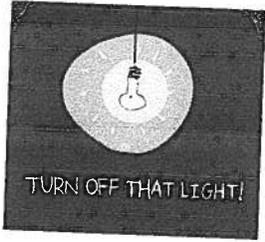
Slide 5: Use Less Paper

- When you use a lot of paper you are using too many trees.
- We need trees for clean air to breath.

Slide 6: Don't Pollute the Ocean

- Dolphins get caught on plastic soda rings.
- Sometimes turtle eat plastic garbage bags.

Save Energy



Don't Pollute the Ocean



Clean Up



Use Less Paper



Make the Earth Greener!

Presented by
Ayshe Kerim
Kayla Burgoa
Mahmoud Talbeh

Don't Litter



Project: 2nd-3rd Grade Assembly Slideshow Created by Go Green Team Students

2-3 Assembly – notes written by students to correspond with slides

Slide 2: Cars Pollute the Air

- Instead of driving cars use bikes, scooters or walk.
- You can ride bus or trains and this will help cut down pollution in the air.

Slide 3: Recycle

- You can recycle paper, cans and bottles
- Recycling is important because you can use some things again and you can reduce the amount of garbage in the landfill.

Slide 4: Save the Earth !!!

- A good way to save the Earth is to reduce, reuse and recycle.
- You can save the earth by using less paper and less water.
- Use both sides of your paper
- Turn off water when you brush your teeth.

Slide 5: Don't Litter

- Stop littering. Your neighborhood can get messy if you litter.
- Ocean litter can kill thousands of sea creatures. The litter can get stuck on penguins and dolphins.

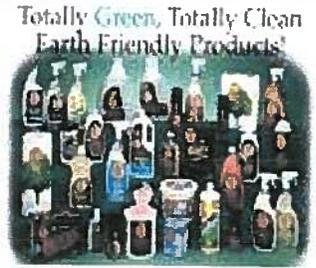
Slide 6: Buy Earth Friendly Products

- Use canvas bags instead of plastic bags. Plastic bags take 1,000 years to disintegrate.
- Use earth friendly products instead of chemicals. It is a good way to help the environment.

RECYCLE!



Buy Earth Friendly Products



Cars Pollute the Air



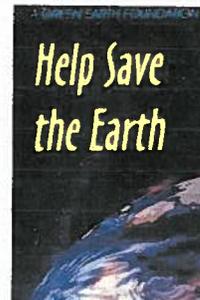
DON'T LITTER



Reduce, Reuse and Recycle

Presented By
Joomee Lee
Lizett Tenezaca
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SAVE THE EARTH!!!



Project: 4th-5th Grade Assembly Slideshow Created by Go Green Team Students

4-5 Assembly – notes written by students to correspond with slides.

Slide 2: **Pollution**

- Did you know that when you walk through town and smell something disgusting it could be spray paint? Spray paint can pollute the earth, so instead of spray paint use regular paint,

Slide 3: **How long to decompose?**

- sock – 1 year
- banana peel – months
- paper – 2 to 4 weeks
- tin can – 100 years
- cotton – 1 to 5 months
- plastic – 1,000 years
- cigarette – 2 to 5 years
- six pack holder – 450 years
- can – 200 to 500 years

Slide 4: **Landfills**

- Landfills have different layers – gravel, waste, and soil
- A landfill is decomposed garbage.

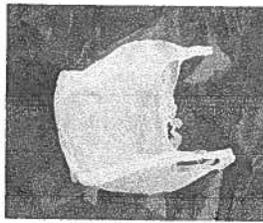
Slide 5: **Green, Blue and Gray Bin**

- Different things go in different bins.
- Blue – glass, spray paint cans, paint cans, wire hangers, metal cans, aluminum products, juice cartons
- Green – newspaper, paper bags, computer paper, pizza boxes, magazines, envelopes
- Regular – plastic rings, containers, light bulb, paper towels, nampkins, plastic, Styrofoam, wood hangers.

Slide 6: **Save the Animals**

- Most people love soda but do you know the soda rings can harm lots of animals, like penguins, seals, and whales. Then can get caough on their necks which can maybe choke the penguins. Also, they can rip or tear an animal's skin. So try to cut up the soda rings to not harm animals.

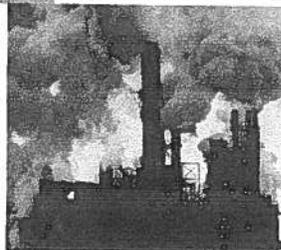
How long to decompose?



Save The Animals



Pollution



Green, Blue, and Gray Bin



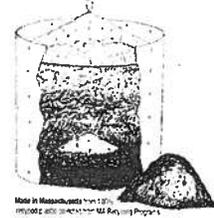
Save Planet Earth

Presented by
Shivanie Dhamija
Stephanie Kokeas
Dede Kotsis
Valerie Ng

Landfills

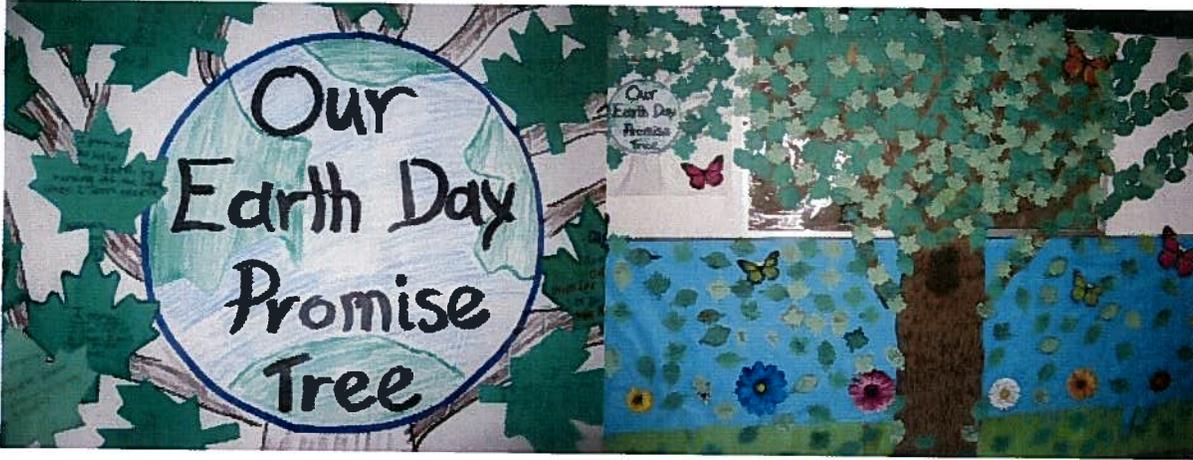


The Brave New Composter



Made in Massachusetts from 100% recycled and recyclable materials.

Activity 6: Earth Day Promises



The Go Green Committee provided each teacher with a copy of the following Earth Day Story. Each of our 830 students was then given a green cutout leaf that had been prepared by our Go Green Team students, and asked to write a promise on a cutout leaf. Many students pledged to reduce their use of natural resources as their Earth Day Promise, saving water, turning off lights, walking to school, and making crafts out of old things were popular choices!

Teachers were also given this note:

In the school's front lobby we are growing a tree covered with everyone's Earth Day promises. Written on hundreds of leaves, the promises are things students pledge to do to be a better friend to the Earth. Each little leaf may not seem like it makes a big difference, but put together, our efforts grow a greener school.

online at: <http://gogreen185.wordpress.com/2010/04/28/earth-day-promise-tree/>

Earth Day Story: What Can I Do? by Kim Moon

from: <http://holidays.kaboose.com/earthday-cando.html>

Teach kids about the meaning of Earth Day with this children's story, then test their comprehension abilities with [our six question quiz](#).

The little boy walked dejectedly down the cracked sidewalk. His backpack was heavy and his feet were slow. He stayed to his path, pausing every now and then only to pick out a new can or wad of paper to kick as he went along his way. His heart felt as heavy as his backpack as he opened the door to his house and went inside.

His mother was in the kitchen, taking brownies out of the oven. She smiled as she turned around but stopped when she saw his face. "Tyler, what happened? Is everything okay?" "Nothing is okay, mom. Nothing will ever be okay again." He stood in the middle of the kitchen as his mother came over to the kitchen table. "Sounds like you had a rough day, Tyler. Is there anything I can do to help?" "That's just the thing, Mom. We can't help. There's nothing we can do." He sat down at the table and put his head in his hands. His mother sat down and waited a moment until Tyler began to speak again.

"Today, in science, the teacher was talking about Earth Day and the environment. Earth Day is supposed to be a day when every person promises to do something to help take care of our world. Mrs. Green was telling us how many companies are not careful about how they get rid of their industrial waste. She said that our world is getting dirtier and that many animals and plants are dying. She wants us to think of something we can do to help and I thought all the way home and there is nothing I can do. I can't stop the companies from polluting our air and water and I can't save all of the animals! There is not anything that I can do to make a difference."

His mother sat for a minute, thinking. "You sound like this really concerns you and that you have put a lot of thought into it, Tyler." Tyler nodded. "Let me tell you a story that your grandfather told me. I don't know where he heard it, but I think that it might help you think about your

problem in a different way. She began, "one morning a man was walking down a beach that was covered in dying starfish. The tide the night before had been especially strong and thousands of starfish had been washed up on shore, too far up for them to make it back into the water by themselves. The man shook his head as he trudged along thinking what a shame it was that all of those starfish would die on the beach.

He came upon a boy who was throwing starfish back into the ocean as fast as he could. He was out of breath and it was obvious that he had been at this task for a while. "Son," the man said, "you might as well quit. There are thousands of them. They are washed up all over the beach as far as you can see. There is no way you can make any sort of a difference." The boy did not even pause in what he was doing. He kept bending and throwing but as he did, he spoke to the man, "I can make a difference to this one, and this one, and this one." And the man thought, and he knew the boy was right. He began to help return the animals to their home, smiling at how life's biggest lessons sometimes came from the smallest people."

Tyler stared intently at his mother. "But he did make a difference, didn't he? To every starfish that he threw back in?" His mother nodded, smiling. He sat for a moment, thinking about what his mother had said. "So, what it means is that even though I can't change everything, I can make a big difference by doing the little things that matter?" "That," she said, sliding him the plate of brownies, "is exactly what I am saying." Tyler grinned and took a brownie from the plate. "That gives me an idea." His mother smiled even bigger and said, "I kind of thought that it might."

The next morning on the way to school, his feet hardly touched the ground. He told his teacher the story of the starfish and his idea. Mrs. Green thought it was a great idea, and decided to let Tyler share the story and his idea with the class. Everyone got to work immediately, cutting out the large green leaves.

On Earth Day, there was an assembly and everyone in the community was invited. Many of those gathered were startled to see the large brown tree trunk affixed to the auditorium wall. They sat, puzzled, and waited for the program to begin. A boy, dressed up to look like a man, walked across a stage filled with starfish. The play went on as Tyler and his class told the story taking place. When it was over the audience applauded as Tyler stood at the podium.

"We were all thinking, and it was frustrating because we didn't think that we could do anything. The problems seemed too big for us to do anything about them. But we decided that together, even the little things we do could add up to mean a lot to our world." The kids began passing out the green leaves and pens to the audience. "We want every person to think of one thing they can do that could make a difference to our world. Even if it seems like something small, it will matter."

The audience began writing, and soon the tree was covered with the green leaves. Tyler and his class read many of them as they attached them to the tree. "I will walk to work." "I will use both sides of my paper to save trees." "I will have my pet neutered so there won't be any puppies born that won't have a home." "I will plant a tree every year." "I will start recycling my newspapers." Tyler thought, and bent to write his promise on the leaf. Soon, the tree was beautiful and green and covered with the Earth Day promises. People were laughing and talking as they left, thinking of what they had promised to do.

When the dismissal bell rang, Tyler got his backpack and began the short walk home. As he reached the sidewalk, he pulled an old grocery bag from his backpack. He began picking up the trash as he made his way home, instead of kicking it. He smiled all the way, thinking of the difference they would make.

Project: Recycle outside the Bin Information

Posted online from Go Green Team Session Discussion

So you received the flier [Recycling Starts with You!](#) on how to separate your recycling into blue and green bins. But here are some items we talked about with the Go Green Team that won't be collected by the NYC Dept. of Sanitation, but can be recycled separately.

You can make a difference by collecting these items and keeping them out of the waste bin.

1. Batteries

Why not in the trash? Single-use batteries should not be thrown in the trash! They contain harmful chemicals that need to be specially discarded.

Where to bring them? Most major pharmacies and hardware stores will collect them.

Here's an idea from the Go Green Team! use rechargeable batteries, and save energy by using less batteries

2. Plastic Bags

Why not in the trash? They can be recycled and remade into useful items

Where to bring them? Grocery stores and stores that use plastic bags are required to collect them for recycling, look for a bin in the front of the store

Here's an idea from the Go Green Team! Reduce your use of plastic bags. Find reusable bags made of recycled plastic, canvas, or other material. Buy garbage bags made from materials that will decompose

COMING SOON!

3. Clothing, Shoes, Blankets, and Household items

4. Toys

5. Lightbulbs

6. Food Scraps

7. Leaves and Christmas Trees

8. Cell Phones and Electronics

9. Non-Perishable Snacks and Foods

10. Snack wrappers

Online at: <http://gogreen185.wordpress.com/2010/04/26/recycle-outside-the-bin/>

10 things you can do to Go Green

*Distributed to all teachers, staff, and students on Earth Day
created by the Go Green Team, after-school enrichment club*

1. Don't Litter (participate in our cleanup at the school, Saturday May 8th)
2. Save Energy (Turn off lights, replace lightbulbs w/ energy efficient bulbs, use your bike, walk, or the MTA instead of a car)
3. Reduce the amount of paper you're using. Reuse single-sided paper.
4. Reduce the amount of plastic you're using. Don't use plastic bags
5. Buy Recycled Paper and products (look for the recycled symbol)
6. Eat more fruits and veggies from NY (local) farms, and buy less packaged foods to save waste.
7. Use less chemicals, and use green cleaning products, and buy organic
8. Recycle in the classroom, at home and especially in the lunchroom!
9. Keep waste out of the landfill (and buy products that are biodegradable)
10. Be an advocate for going green, not just in the school, but everywhere you go! (Join the NY RECYCLES! poster contest)

Activity 7: NEW Website

All of our resources and projects are posted on our new website for all students and families, and other K-5 schools interested in reducing waste.

GO-GREEN AT P.S. 185

K-5 Projects to Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle

Feeds:  Posts  Comments



Resources/Links

[Edit](#)

[Online Kids Activities](#)

[Free Printable Posters](#)

[Conserving Natural Resources](#)

[Reducing Waste](#)

[Saving Energy](#)

[Understanding Our Water System](#)

[Our Garden, Soil, and Earth](#)

[Clean Air](#)

[Our City, NYC Green Resources](#)

[Environmental Education: General Planning and Curriculum](#)

[Fieldtrips](#)

[Fundraisers and School Collections](#)

SHARING GREEN IDEAS

Share your green ideas email ideas and projects to:

[gogreen185
\[at\]yahoo\[dot\]com](mailto:gogreen185[at]yahoo[dot]com)

HERE'S WHAT'S NEW:

- * Go Green Design Exposition
- * Earth Day Promise Tree
- * Recycle outside the Bin
- * Go Green Report Cards
- * Earth Day Assembly
- * e4-NYC, Sat. April 24
- * Ten Things You Can Do!
- * Happy Earth Day! Eight Ways to Celebrate
- * Green Schools Fair
- * NYC life Celebrates Earth Month
- * Watch this & plant flowers!
- * Arbor Day on April 30
- * Million Trees NYC

gogreen185.wordpress.com

Activity 8: Selling reusable water bottles & Donating reusable shopping bags to each teacher and parents

Our school store is selling reusable water bottles so students, teachers and staff can show their support for Go Green while also reusing plastic, reducing energy needed to ship bottled water, and reducing plastic used in purchased bottles of water.

We also approached local businesses and were able to give all of our Earth Day resources to teachers in a reusable shopping bags. Parents who attended the Earth Day assembly also received reusable shopping bags, a great way to reduce the need for plastic bags when you're shopping!

Future Projects we can plan to Reduce and Reuse

- Focus on energy reduction in school for next year's Earth Day program
- Used Clothing Drive
- Toy Swap



What is the TrashMasters! Reduce and Reuse Challenge?

TrashMasters!-

REDUCE & REUSE CHALLENGE

Show us how your school reduces waste! *Trashmasters! Reduce & Reuse Challenge* awards schools in each borough for the **most innovative and successful waste prevention practices.**

Binder Contents:

Project Entry Form

Summary of All projects (3 page max)

Complete description of each individual project including Learning Standards addressed

Photographs or drawings, documenting activities completed

Examples of relevant student school work

What is Waste Prevention?

"Recycling is mandatory for schools in NYC

...and recycling is critical to reducing the quantity of waste that New York City sends to landfills and incinerators. **But recycling is not the same as waste prevention.**

"Waste prevention means actually eliminating or reducing the quantity of materials discarded, either as trash or recyclables. We all pay for waste through higher consumer prices and taxes to cover the cost of waste management, as well as damage to the environment. You can reduce these costs through waste prevention."

--From [New York City Department of Sanitation](#)'s Bureau of Waste Prevention, Reuse and Recycling. **NYCWasteLe\$\$** is New York City's one-stop resource for waste prevention and [recycling](#) information: <http://www.nyc.gov/html/nycwasteless/html/home/home.shtm>