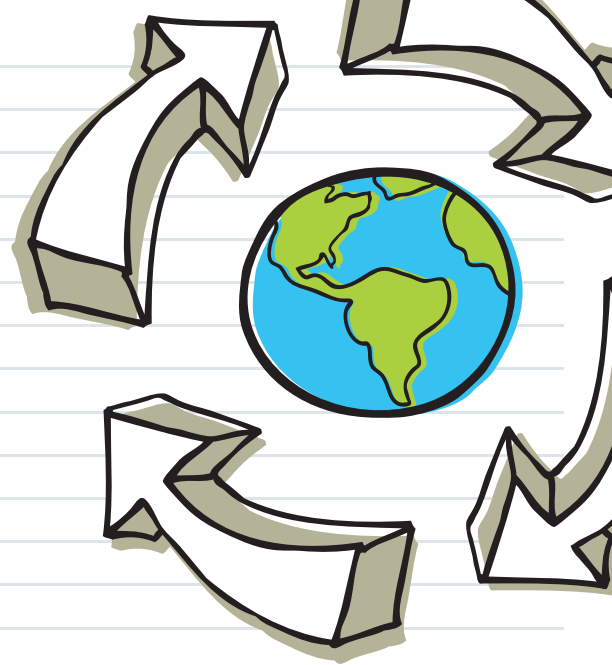
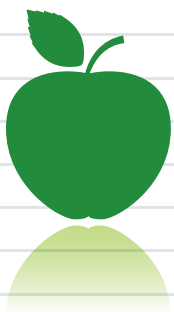


# Reduce, Reuse and Recycle Student Activity Ideas



## In the Classroom

- **Place** the classroom recycling bin next to the garbage bin where they will be easy to see and use.
- **Label** the recycling and garbage bins and attach or make signs listing what can and cannot go in each bin. Students could help make the signs.
- **Designate** a recycling monitor to check for garbage in the recycling as a classroom job.
- **Check** with your custodian on how students can help with recycling collection.



## In the Lunchroom

- **Have** students record lunch items for one week. Is there a lot of packaging going to the garbage? Are there any recyclable or reusable items? What could they do differently to reduce their waste? Are students only taking what they will eat from school lunches? Are students using a share table for food they do not want?
- **Hold** a waste-free lunch challenge to see which lunch group creates the least amount of garbage.
- **Conduct** a lunchroom waste audit measuring the amount of trash and recycling. Audit waste before and after education campaigns to see if things have improved. If the school has compost collection, add "compost" as a third category for the waste audit.
- **Create** 3-D signs using common lunchroom items to hang near bins. Glue objects onto poster boards showing what can go in each bin for recyclables, compost and garbage bins.



## School-wide Recycling

- **Have** students educate other students and staff by performing skits, creating posters and making PA announcements.
- **Assign** students to spot check the garbage and recycling bins in classrooms, office and library for proper recycling.
- **Hold** a contest between classrooms to see who has the least amount of garbage in their recycling. Designate a mascot or trophy that moves from classroom to classroom. A custodian can be the judge.
- **Plan** a recycling week with fun activities, games, announcements, and posters to raise awareness of reducing, reusing and recycling.



## Creative Reducing, Reusing and Recycling

- **Reduce** paper use by printing on both sides, making double-sided copies and using your projector and dry-erase board whenever possible.
- **Create** a reuse box for one-sided paper for every classroom and workroom.
- **Save** recyclables to use for art projects or costumes for a fashion show. Hold collection drives to collect items such as magazines, plastic jugs and bottle caps.
- **Reuse** party supplies. Store them in a central location for others to reuse. Students can make holiday decorations from recyclables.



## At Home

- **Choose** an idea from the classroom tips above for students to try at home and report back to class with their results.
- **Ask** students to research what is recyclable at home. These may be different items than school recycling allows. Visit [www.wmnorthwest.com/washington](http://www.wmnorthwest.com/washington) to research what is accepted in your city.
- **Encourage** students to work with their families to label waste bins at home and share information about what can be recycled.

