

Dear Family,

In my class today we learned about trash, recycling, and helping the environment.

Did You Know?

- We recycle to help keep the Earth clean. When we eat our lunches, create art projects, blow our noses, or open a birthday present, we have things that need to be thrown away. Since we do not want to fill our world with trash, we try to reuse some of it. Many of the items we throw into the trash can be repurposed or recycled. This helps to reduce the amount of trash ending up in dumps and landfills. We put these things in a different kind of container so they can be recycled. When we recycle, we often sort paper materials from plastics, aluminum, and glass. The reason for sorting materials in advance is that they are easier to process when they get to the recycling center. Paper, plastic, aluminum, and glass are the most frequently recycled materials.
- Many of the items we recycle are turned into the same products. For instance, recycled plastic soda bottles can be turned into new plastic bottles and used aluminum cans can be turned into new aluminum cans. We can also recycle used materials to create new products. Used office paper can be recycled into tissues, toilet paper, paper towels, napkins, and writing paper. Plastic bottles are recycled and become fiber filling for jackets and sleeping bags, carpeting, paintbrush bristles, and skateboards.

Ask Your Child:

- What is recycling?
- Did you find anything to recycle at your school?
- How does recycling help our world?
- How do you feel when you see litter?
- Tell me what kind of items can be recycled.

Activities To Do With Your Child:

- We talked about recycling. Your child may want to ask you some of these questions:
 - Where do we put our items for recycling?
 - Do we have recycling bins?
 - What do we recycle?
- You and your child can draw a picture of your recycling bin(s) and send the picture to school. The children can share their pictures and compare and contrast how our families participate in recycling.
- Throughout the day, let your child help you throw away recyclables. Explain to your child how you choose what goes in the recycling bin(s). If the glass bottles, plastic containers, aluminum cans, or cardboard boxes have recycling symbols on them, show the symbols to your child.

Vocabulary To Use With Your Child: recycle, reduce, reuse, plastic, paper, environment