## Dear Family,

In my class today we made a new use for a recyclable item.

## Did You Know?

- The average person creates about 4 pounds of solid trash each day. Many of the things we use every day can be reused for a new purpose. Finding ways to reuse products takes some imagination. Just as we found new purposes for boxes and containers, other items can be reused. For instance, instead of throwing unwanted household items in the trash, consider donating them to a local charitable thrift store. Once there, the items will be sorted and reused. Many animal shelters will accept discarded newspapers as well as old towels and sheets.
- Currently there is a movement in the United States toward using more sustainable packaging. This means optimum use of recycled and renewable materials. Packages are manufactured using more environmentally friendly materials. More products are being packaged in smaller, more compact packages. Many businesses, such as hair salons and cleaning product distributors are offering refills to consumers who bring in the original containers. Many printers now contain ink cartridges that are refillable without having to purchase the cartridge itself.


## Ask Your Child:

- What item did you create a new use for?
- What is the new use?
- What other items can you think of new uses for?


## Activities To Do With Your Child:

- Look around your home for ways to reuse discarded containers. Challenge your family to find a new use for just one discarded container each week. Help your child decorate the container with paint and construction or contact paper, making it new for its new use.

Vocabulary To Use With Your Child: reuse, recycle, purpose, watering can, container, collect

