



## **Environment in Action (Post Field Trip)**

The following are suggested follow-up activities to help students reflect on their field trip experience.

### **After the Trip**

Ask students their overall impressions of the field trip. What did you enjoy? What didn't you enjoy? What surprised you? What do you want to learn more about?

Have them share their general observations and reactions.

You may want to have the class compose and send thank-you notes to the New Earth—try to be specific with names and experiences. Mention a favorite area or information learned during the field trip.

### **Demonstrate Knowledge**

During the field trip, students learned about several topics pertaining to recycling organic materials on a large scale into mulch/compost. Guide students to reflect on key takeaways such as:

- Organic vs. inorganic materials and what can be placed in a “green bin”
- How science, technology, engineering and mathematics are present in everyday life and work, including at New Earth
- What students can do on a small but meaningful level to support organic recycling and our shared environment

Use the Sorting Out a Plan activity to help gauge overall student comprehension and assist students toward putting knowledge into action.

Then ask students to brainstorm both a class plan and individual plan to help them demonstrate both their comprehension of the field trip's main takeaways, and how to use that knowledge to influence their personal behavior in the future.



## Sorting Out a Plan (Post-Field Trip Activity)

**Part 1:** Write **G**, **B** or **W** next to each item below to indicate which bin the item belongs in.

**G** = GREEN Bin, Organic Materials like food scraps

**B** = BLUE Bin, Recyclable materials like paper, plastic and glass

**W** = BROWN Bin, Garbage or Trash that cannot be re-used or recycled and must go to a landfill

- |                                 |                                  |                               |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| ___branches                     | ___sawdust                       | ___rocks                      |
| ___grass clippings              | ___toothpicks                    | ___scrap metal                |
| ___floral trimmings             | ___wooden chopsticks             | ___straws                     |
| ___houseplants                  | ___pet waste (no bags)           | ___Styrofoam ®                |
| ___leaves                       | ___soil or dirt                  | ___tree stumps                |
| ___yard trimmings               | ___cardboard boxes               | ___wine corks                 |
| ___food scraps                  | ___diapers                       | ___treated wood               |
| ___candy (no wrapper)           | ___cigarette butts               | ___paint cans                 |
| ___coffee grounds               | ___dead animals                  | ___plastic grocery bags       |
| ___condiments (no packaging)    | ___aluminum foil                 | ___bottle caps                |
| ___eggs                         | ___automotive grease             | ___garden hose                |
| ___eggshells                    | ___ceramics                      | ___metal                      |
| ___fruit                        | ___microwave popcorn bags        | ___boxes w/ tape or glue      |
| ___leftover food (no packaging) | ___clothing (consider donating)  | ___envelopes w/ clear windows |
| ___tea bags and tea leaves      | ___cooking grease or oil         |                               |
| ___spoiled foods                | ___disposable mop sheets         |                               |
| ___cigarette ashes              | ___dryer sheets                  |                               |
| ___paper cups and plates        | ___glass                         |                               |
| ___paper napkins and towels     | ___hazardous waste               |                               |
| ___pizza boxes                  | ___motor oil                     |                               |
| ___cotton balls                 | ___plastic bags and bottles      |                               |
| ___dryer lint                   | ___plastic coated cartons        |                               |
| ___Popsicle® sticks             | ___milk and ice cream cartons    |                               |
| ___shredded paper               | ___plastic forks, knives, spoons |                               |



## Making a Plan (Post-Field Trip Activity)

**Now take a look at the categories you sorted potential recyclable items into previously.**

Describe a quick classroom idea and an individual or home idea to show how you might put your knowledge into action. You may want to use some sketch paper to draw out your ideas in addition to writing some quick thoughts.

### **GREEN Bin—Organic Materials Recycling**

**Class Plan:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Individual/Home Plan:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

### **BLUE Bin—Traditional Paper, Plastic, and Glass Recycling**

**Class Plan:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Individual/Home Plan:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

### **BROWN Bin - Trash, Garbage or Non-Traditional Recyclables**

**Class Plan:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Individual/Home Plan:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



## ANSWER KEY

**Part 1:** Write **G**, **B** or **W** next to each item below to indicate which bin the item belongs in.

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- |                                 |                                  |                               |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| _G_branches                     | _G_sawdust                       | _W_rocks                      |
| _G_grass clippings              | _G_toothpicks                    | _B_scrap metal                |
| _G_floral trimmings             | _G_wooden chopsticks             | _B_straws                     |
| _G_houseplants                  | _G_pet waste (no bags)           | B/W_Styrofoam ®               |
| _G_leaves                       | _G_soil or dirt                  | _W_tree stumps                |
| _G_yard trimmings               | G/B_cardboard boxes (no tape)    | B/W_wine corks                |
| _G_food scraps                  | _W_diapers                       | _W_treated wood               |
| _G_candy (no wrapper)           | _W_cigarette butts               | _W_paint cans                 |
| _G_coffee grounds               | _W_dead animals                  | _B_plastic grocery bags       |
| _G_condiments (no packaging)    | _B_aluminum foil                 | _B_bottle caps                |
| _G_eggs                         | _W_automotive grease             | _B_garden hose                |
| _G_eggshells                    | _W_ceramics                      | _B_metal                      |
| _G_fruit                        | _W_microwave popcorn bags        | B/W_boxes w/ tape or glue     |
| _G_leftover food (no packaging) | _W_clothing (consider donating)  | _B_envelopes w/ clear windows |
| _G_tea bags and tea leaves      | _W_cooking grease or oil         |                               |
| _G_spoiled foods                | _W_disposable mop sheets         |                               |
| _G_cigarette ashes              | _W_dryer sheets                  |                               |
| G/B_paper cups and plates       | _B_glass                         |                               |
| G/B_paper napkins and towels    | _W_hazardous waste               |                               |
| _G_pizza boxes                  | _W_motor oil                     |                               |
| _G_cotton balls                 | _B_plastic bags and bottles      |                               |
| _G_dryer lint                   | _B_plastic coated cartons        |                               |
| _G_Popsicle® sticks             | _B_milk and ice cream cartons    |                               |
| G/B_shredded paper              | _B_plastic forks, knives, spoons |                               |