

School Recycling Relay with DCPS Recycles!

Activity Overview

This is an interactive, physical and fun activity that teaches students proper sorting practices for recycling and composting. The goal of this activity is to get students comfortable with sorting organic waste, paper and cardboard, mixed recyclables (aluminum, plastic etc.), and waste. Students will then be able to sort their own waste during lunch time and in their classrooms with minimal adult supervision. They will become familiar with the educational and informational signage used throughout the school to guide sorting.

Materials Needed

- Appropriate labels on bins
- Educational sign for orientation presentation: suggested DCPS educational images <https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B4sX8F36ZxLFQTICX3dqRU1XQ2M/view>
- Grey Waste bin with black trash bag
- Blue Mixed Recyclables bin with clear liner
- Yellow Organics/composting bin with green, compostable liner
- Small paper/cardboard classroom bin
- Example materials
 - Plastic bottle
 - Aluminum can
 - Banana
 - Apple
 - Napkin
 - Lunch tray
 - Paper
 - Cardboard
 - Milk Carton
 - Plastic bag
 - Plastic utensils



Activity Instructions

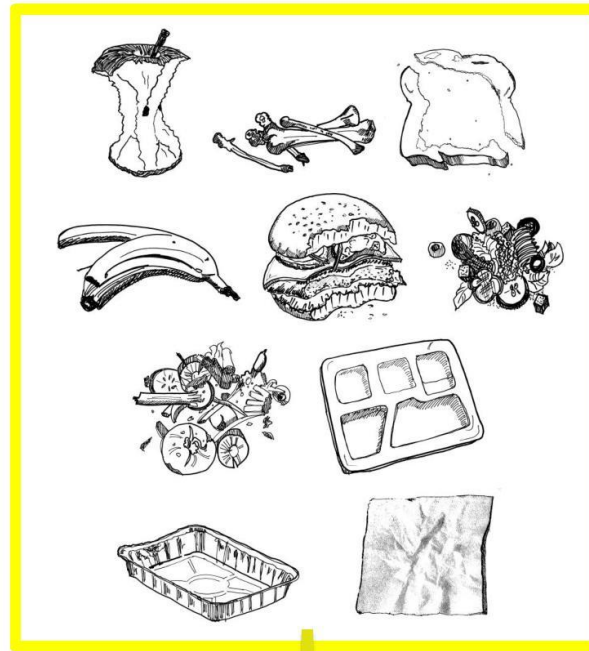
1. Begin the activity with a short presentation on recycling and composting. Emphasize the importance of proper sorting to avoid contamination. Discuss what materials go into each bin. Be sure to include many photos of example items and bins with labeling. Sample PowerPoint slides are included below. Posters or boards with images are also encouraged.

For images to include in DCPS Recycles Educational poster:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B4sX8F36ZxLFQTICX3dqRU1XQ2M/view>

2. Line students up into teams. Provide each student with an item to sort. Students should begin, one from each team at a time, to sort their item and then tap the next person in their team to proceed. The first team to properly sort all their items are the Green Champions! Have one teacher stand behind bins and correct incorrect sorting.
3. When the relay is complete, go through the items in the bins with students and state the proper sorting destination for each item.

SORT IT OUT! – Answer Key



SORT IT OUT!

