

# TEACHER GUIDE

# Trash Talk!

TO: Teachers

FROM: Cuyahoga County Solid Waste District  
*Make It A Habit: Reduce, Reuse, Recycle*  
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DATE: Fall 2008

Welcome to the 2008-09 school year of *Trash Talk!* Our themes for this issue are yard waste and America Recycles Day, which will be celebrated nationally on November 15. Our activities reflect these topics. Because these activities are cross-curricular, we have given you many ideas to fit the needs and interests of your students.

This Teacher Guide supplements *Trash Talk!* by giving extension activities, as well as by listing specific activities, subject areas covered, and skills addressed. Journal and reuse ideas can be quickly implemented as daily work supplements to the proficiencies that you teach every day.

Activity	Subject Areas	Skills Addressed
“On Average”	<i>Math</i>	Organizing simple data set to answer question; Calculating average
“Logically Speaking”	<i>Math</i>	Employing critical thinking skills to analyze a problem by identifying relationships and sequencing and prioritizing information
“The Right Word”	<i>Language Arts</i> <i>Science</i>	Applying knowledge of homophones and using context clues to choose correct words to complete sentences Choosing correct vocabulary to complete explanatory statements and instructions regarding trash and recycling
“Putting Nature to Work”	<i>Science</i>	Understanding that organisms in the environment are growing, dying, and decaying, and new organisms are being produced by the old ones; Understanding how organisms depend on dead plant and animal material for food
“There’s a Place for Everything”	<i>Math</i>	Demonstrating a knowledge of the meaning of place value by applying place-value positions
“As Simple as a Simile”	<i>Language Arts</i>	Constructing similes; Writing sentence using figurative language and varied word choices

While we believe we have created age-appropriate, high-interest activities, we welcome your thoughts and comments. Remember that *Trash Talk!* is produced locally to meet our needs in educating students about waste reduction and recycling. Please contact us with your suggestions or questions.

# Reuse Ideas

## Math

- Turn to “There’s a Place for Everything” inside the newsletter. Sum the numbers in the white box.
- Write these numerals as words: 56, 881, 2,056, and 23,940. (Example: The numeral 25 is written *twenty-five* in words.)
- If 320 sports drink and water bottles were recycled at the end of a soccer tournament and if 10 teams participated in the tournament, on average how many bottles were recycled by each team? Include your number sentence with your answer.

## Language Arts

- Correct these sentences and provide proper ending punctuation:  
You should composting your yard waist  
Do Jim know weather the compost centre is open on Wednesday  
Their is no weigh that Im going to do that
- Circle five nouns, underline five verbs, and highlight five adjectives.
- Write these words in **ABC** (alphabetical) order:  
browns    bacteria    bin    been    because

## Social Studies

- The front of your house faces south. From your bedroom, you cannot see the street, but you can see your backyard compost pile. Is your compost pile on the north or south side of your house?
- Put these words in order from the most general to the most specific:  
neighborhood    city    house    state

## Science

- In each group, cross out the word that does not belong:  
nitrogen    carbon    water    oxygen  
insects    leaves    fungi    worms
- List three things found inside your home that would rot in a compost pile.

## Analogies

- ears : hear :: \_\_\_\_\_ : see
- there : location :: then : \_\_\_\_\_

## Extension Activity

Copy the blackline master on the next page, making a copy for each student. (Remember to copy them onto the back of reused paper, if possible, or use recycled-content paper.)

## Journal Writing Prompts

- Use the letters in “vermicomposting” to create as many words as you can think of.
- “*One person’s trash is another person’s treasure.*” What do you think this saying means? Can you think of an example in your own life that proves the truth of this statement?
- Write a paragraph about something you own that is valuable to you, but which isn’t worth a lot of money. Why do you value this item?
- Write a sentence using these words: *leaves, fall, music, and friend*. You can use as many other words as you want. Be creative!
- Pretend that you are running for President this fall. Write a short speech to the American people.



# Order, Order Everywhere

Put the words below in alphabetical order, starting at the top. When you are done, read down the fourth column to answer this riddle: *What did the worm say to the leaf?*

MANAGER

B	A	T	H	T	U	B

BATHTUB

INSTANT

THROUGH

FLIPPER

CREATES


PLAYERS

INVOLVE


GRAYING

NEUTRAL

VOLUMES


JEWELRY

EARPLUG

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

# Teacher Keys

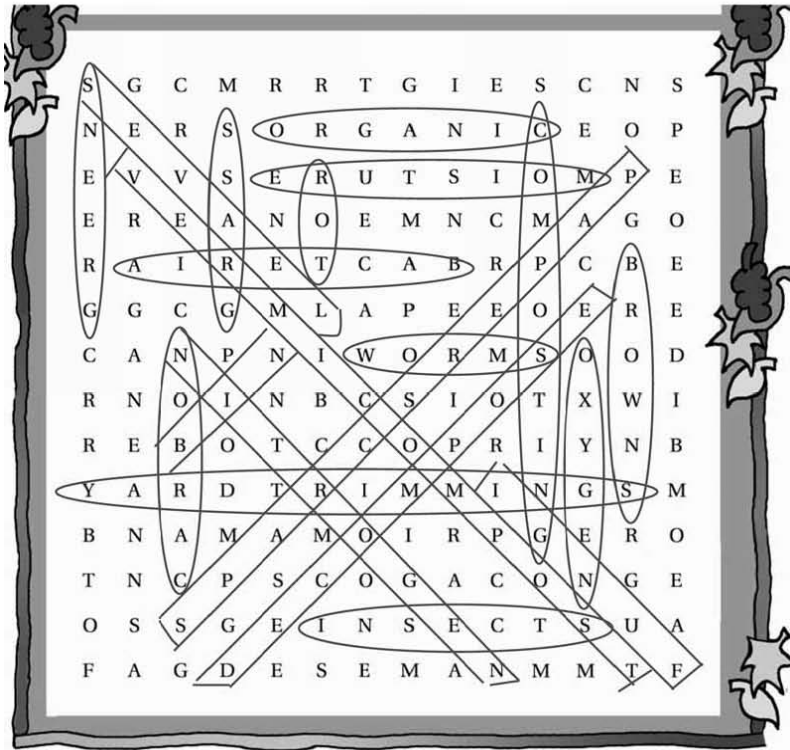


The teams recycled an average of **22 bottles**.

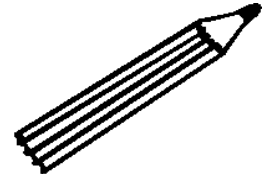
## Logically Speaking

Nik had the tallest pile of leaves.

## Putting Nature to Work



## The Right Word



- |          |             |
|----------|-------------|
| 1. waste | 9. due      |
| 2. knew  | 10. course  |
| 3. bin   | 11. there   |
| 4. Your  | 12. weather |
| 5. way   | 13. two     |
| 6. It's  | 14. rose    |
| 7. here  | 15. whole   |
| 8. metal |             |



## There's a Place for Everything

During 2005, **81,790,235** tons of garbage were recycled and composted in the U.S.

- |        |                              |             |                                     |
|--------|------------------------------|-------------|-------------------------------------|
| 56     | 5 is in the tens place.      | 842,513     | 4 is in the ten thousands place.    |
| 881    | 1 is in the ones place.      | 97,645,312  | 7 is in the millions place.         |
| 2,056  | 2 is in the thousands place. | 249,981,742 | 2 is in the hundred millions place. |
| 23,940 | 9 is in the hundreds place.  |             |                                     |

**Extension Activity:** *Order, Order Everywhere — "Happy to eat you!"*