What's Recyclable in Tacoma?
Grades 2-5 Post-Visit Activity #1

Materials Needed: Recycling Survey, pencils

Purpose: To assess your students’ knowledge about recycling.

Directions:
- Ask your students the following questions and compare the results to the pre-visit survey.

Recycling Survey

1. What are 5 items you put in the recycle bin?

2. What happens to things when they are recycled?

3. What are 3 items you put in a yard waste bin?

4. What happens to the yard waste?

5. Where can you take batteries?
What's in the Trash?
Grades 2-5 Post-Visit Activity #2


Purpose: To have students think about what they are throwing away, and to realize new ways they can use their “garbage.”

Directions:
• Make a copy of the What’s in the Trash chart for each student to take home.

• Give each student a chart and ask them to complete it with help from at least one other person where they live.

• Have your students inventory the trash at home once a day for a week, recording the amount of each type of packaging or other items thrown away. Have each student record what could be composted, reused or recycled and what is really garbage in the boxes for each day.

• When the students bring the charts back to class, have a group discussion about ways to increase recycling, reusing and composting, to reduce waste in their homes.

• For an extended activity, have students write up their plans for reducing their home waste.
What’s in the Trash?

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<th>GARBAGE</th>
<th>RECYCLE</th>
<th>REUSE</th>
<th>COMPOST</th>
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What thing(s) represent the largest part of your home’s waste?

Which of these items could be reduced or eliminated by changing what you buy or use?