Lunch Time Monitors:
How To "Think Before You Throw"

Purpose: To create a system for students to monitor waste sorting and help fellow students sort properly. The goal is to share this responsibility across grades. Use and adapt the template below to help set-up a system and schedule for student lunch monitors at your school.

- Make sure your cafeteria has a multi-sort waste station with bins for Compost, Recycling, and Landfill next to reach other and properly labeled with signs.
- 2 students from one class could be assigned to monitor for their class/grade at lunchtime for one day, then 2 other kids from the same class the next day. Once you've cycled through that class, then it would go to the next class of that same grade. Then after that, to a different grade. Or have different pairs split the lunch period, or only do it during the second half when most disposal is occurring.
- Monitors should be from second grade on up. (K and 1st may be too young, use your judgment).
- Teachers can give "extra credit" or "volunteer hours" or some other reward that fits with recognition for "good deeds" at your school. A recognition award at the end of the year may also be suitable.
- Add some excitement for student monitors by providing a special vest or t-shirt to recognize lunch monitors. You can purchase orange "safety vests" and decorate with the class with permanent markets. Or create a reuse project where students bring in old t-shirts and decorating supplies (maybe L or XL to fit over regular school clothes). You can use Green Team funds or ask your PTA for funds if you need them.
- Lunchtime assistants/volunteers/parents should be trained in what goes where. You can show the "Think Before You Throw" video on our website and/or do a demonstration at the waste station in the cafeteria.
- Student monitors should be trained on proper sorting. You can use the video, or a lesson. Students can practice role-playing and what they will say to other students and how they will demonstrate proper sorting. Training can occur during class, or at lunchtime. Provide students with some pointers on how to communicate with other students.

At the back of this page you will find a sample schedule for lunch monitors. Copy and distribute. Or download the Word doc version and adapt for your purposes. Video and downloadables are available at from www.greenschools.net/BUSDgreenstarschools.

Student Lunchtime Monitor Schedule

Class Rm. # _____ Teacher Name: _____

Week of: _____ Lunch Time Period: _____ to _____

	Student # 1	Student #2
Monday		
Tuesday		
Wednesday		
Thursday		
Friday		