Green Team Monitoring Roles

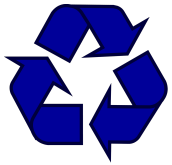
Food Share Hero

- Only unopened packaged food or uneaten fruit from the meal program can be left in the food share bins.
- Instruct classmates to organize by the different categories into the bins.
- If classmates are returning unopened milk, remind them that milk is not required. They can decide if they want milk next time.
- Do not let classmates leave their trays for others to sort.
- Use kind words when giving reminders.

Liquid Bucket Hero

- Students are to pour out any remaining liquid from their milk carton or other beverage containers they are wanting to get rid of.
- Use kind words when giving reminders.

Recycle Hero



- Check that all items that go into this bin are clean of food and landfill.
- Fix a mistake with grabbers.
- Recyclable items that cannot be cleaned out in time or well enough should go in the landfill bin.
- Use kind, positive and instructing words when giving reminders.
- Use grabbers to fix mistakes to have very little contamination in this bin.

	Milk Cartons: If students hands are full you can take their milk carton off their tray and place it upside down in the liquid bucket strainer.
Landfill Hero	➢ Remind students they need to throw only plastic wrap and small plastic items in the grey can. Forks, wrappers, Capri Sun pouches, ketchup packets, etc. ➢ If classmates have an item that is too difficult and messy to go into the recycle and compost bin, such as a yogurt cup that is not finished and has a lid still or a Lunchable tray with ketchup or sauce and the plastic wrap still attached, have it tossed in the landfill bin. ➢ Use grabbers to pull out recyclable or compostable items and put in the correct bin. ➢ Use kind, positive and instructing words when giving reminders.
Compost Hero	➢ All uneaten food scraps and napkins go into this green bin. ➢ If students have salad bar food uneaten on a tray (tomatoes, carrots, cucumbers etc) remind them nicely to eat them and not throw them away. ➢ Use grabber to fix mistakes to have very little or no contamination. ➢ Instruct classmates to keep trays or paper boats out of this bin. Trays are stacked at the end of the station. ➢ Use kind, positive and instructing words when giving reminders.

Trays/Boats Hero

- Students need to stack their own trays or boats.
- For trays - remind classmates to puzzle the trays to fit together with the one below.
- Press down on the trays or boats from time to time for a neat stack.
- Once the trays or boats get high, start a new stack.
- Use kind, positive and instructing words when giving reminders.

Pre-sort, Tables and Floors Hero

- Remind classmates to pre-sort as much as possible while at the table.
- Use a box to collect plastic wrap from your classmates.
- Encourage classmates to enjoy their food.
- Use grabbers or broom and dustpan to collect items that may have fallen on the floor. Put collected material into the correct sorting bin or if too mixed then into the landfill bin.
- Use a reward system for classes that have cleaned up their whole table, such as a sticker and chart tracking.
- Use kind, positive and instructing words when giving reminders.

TIPS for GREEN TEAM Monitors

Regular and strong monitoring make a difference

- It is very important to have correct sorting in the compost and recycle, and to have mostly only trash items in the landfill bin
- A couple of mistakes are okay, but it needs to be close to perfect
- Educate the school community on the why and how to sort and have the bins monitored on a regular basis
- If compost and recycle bins have too many mistakes then the custodian has to toss these into the landfill hauling bins

Work into the monitoring routine!

Best Practices for Bin Monitors

- **Be present!**
  - Look people in the eye
  - Talk to people when they approach the bins
  - Ask them first where their items go before telling them
  - If they are not sure, point to which bin they should use
  - If a student is tossing something that can be saved, remind them to keep it for later or share it with a friend
  - Don’t block access to bins - stand to the side or behind the bins
- **Avoid touching waste**
  - Make sure people place their own waste in the proper bin - don’t do it for them
  - Use picker/grabbers to fix mistakes
- **Be helpful!**
  - Encourage people to participate
  - Praise them when they get it right
  - Help custodians clean up any litter left out at the end of lunch

Tips for GREEN TEAM Monitor LEADs

Behind the Scenes Sorting Best Practices

- **Know what goes where at your school and train all team members**
  - Review the commonly provided items at your school
  - Uneaten/unopened food from the school meal program goes in the Food Share bin
  - Food scraps and food-soiled paper go in the compost
  - Milk cartons, juice boxes, plastic bottles, and aluminum cans go in the recycle
  - Plastic forks, plastic wrap, and juice pouches go in the landfill
- **Make sure bin stations are properly set up**
  - Recycle, Compost, Landfill are co-located (all three are in the same place)
  - Tray stacking, food share, and liquids bucket are present
  - Signs are clearly posted
  - Clear liners are being used in compost and recycle bins
  - Ask custodian for help if any items are missing
- **Make sure bins are welcoming**
  - Use clear signs with clear messages
  - Keep stations clean and organized
  - Consider messaging during school and/or at lunch to remind students about sorting stations
- **Make it fun**
  - Develop incentives/small rewards for people that properly participate
  - Develop recycling games/contests to encourage participation
  - Monitors can have incentives too!
  - Use a sign in system to get credit for your work
  - Rotate work days or create a schedule - don't risk getting burnt out
  - Continue to grow the team - consider involving other student clubs
  - Celebrate throughout the year for the good work done!