

### Don't Trash the Earth Sixth Grade Interdisciplinary Study of Recycling

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### The Big Question

• Social responsibilities—who decides?

- Define social responsibilities
- Define community





### What's Going On?

The local landfill will close soon without your help. The city needs solutions to drastically reduce the amount of garbage going into the landfill. You are officially hired as Waste Management Consultants. Plan and prepare your proposals to deliver to a committee in two weeks. The top five proposals will earn a bonus check.



#### What Will We Do in Science?

• Research energy conservation and energy resources.

Investigate the process and science behind recycling.

• Research the current school recycling policies and practices.

Investigate waste management plans.

• Use the data to develop an alternative plan.

• Make a slideshow using your creativity and intelligence concerning your waste management proposal that will impress the committee.





### What Will We Do in Math?



- Conduct a cost analysis of the school's (or community's) current waste management and recycling practices.
- Mine data concerning data consumption in your home, school, community, and world.
- Put data in spreadsheets and graphs to help you interpret your findings.
- Work with a waste management specialist to determine how costs can be reduced.
- Onsider cost-cutting measures and determine the feasibility of changing current practices.



### What Will We Do in Art?



- Work solo or with partners to create an art piece or invention from trash.
- Take digital pictures of your work, write a caption for the piece, and develop a display for the school or community.



# What Will We Do in Social Studies?

- Complete a historical study of waste management in your community, nation, and world.
- Study the issue of waste around the world.
- Profile new technologies and advances in the field of recycling.
- Create a team Web site that shows the state of the planet and highlights the importance of reducing, reusing, and recycling.



# What Will We Do in Language Arts?

- Survey attitudes and practices of staff and students concerning recycling and waste management in general.
- Use data from your survey to create a brochure that will deliver a "Call to Action" and convince people that they need to participate in a conservation plan for the school and/or community.
- Practice persuasive speaking skills.



### Good Luck!



#### Your Planet |s Counting on You!



## Texas Recycling Links

- www.texasrecyclingsummit.com
- www.texasrecycled.org
- www.tnrcc.state.tx.us/exec/sbea/rtol/index.html
- www.tnrcc.state.tx.us
- www.texasrecyclesday.org
- www.ktb.org
- www.recycletx.org