

# **Sea Turtle Art**

Sea turtles have been swimming the oceans of the world free from pollution for millions of years. Now, all seven species are endangered. Did you know that the largest

of all sea turtles, the Pacific Leatherback, swim 12,000 miles across the Pacific Ocean every year? They lay their eggs on beaches in the south Pacific and swim back across the ocean to the coast of Northern California to feed on their favorite food, jellyfish! Floating plastic bags look

similar to jellyfish,



"Turtle in Trouble" by Claire Englade

becoming a harmful choice for a turtle.

Middle school student Claire Englade painted a picture of a sea turtle in trouble. The painting shows a six-pack ring and a plastic bag, two plastic items that threaten sea turtles and other marine life. Claire's painting won a national contest! It will be featured in the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Association's 2013 calendar. Way to go, Claire!

Our modern world uses a lot of plastic bags! You can help protect sea turtles and other marine life by reminding your parents to bring reusable bags *every time and everywhere* they shop. If you see a plastic bag as litter, pick it up, tie it in a knot, and throw it away. A sea turtle will thank you!

## **Family Art Night**

Arts and crafts bring creativity and fun into our lives. Making crafts is something the whole family can do together. Best of all, it's a great way to use recycled materials! Old paper can be made into cards, envelopes, and bookmarks. Bottle caps can become kitchen magnets. Cardboard boxes and paper towel tubes can be made into all sorts of things.

Westlake Elementary

**Elias at Family Art Night** 



School celebrates creativity and reuse with Family Art Night. The multi-purpose room hums with activity as students, parents, and grandparents wander through the art stations and work on a variety of projects. One of the most popular stations is equipped with glue guns



Josie at Family Art Night

and boxes of broken toys and other junk rescued from trash cans and recycling bins. Kids invent new gadgets and create interesting sculptures with the scrap and a little bit of hot glue!

#### Kids on Broadway and the 3Rs

Last spring, Kids on Broadway performed "*Trash Town*," an original play. In Trash Town, the kids put their creative noodles together



to transform Tyrant-O-Sorry-Us Rex, the town's trash monster, into beautiful art, musical instruments, fun fashion, and compost for gardens. They showed the adults of Trash Town how great it is to reduce, reuse, recycle, and repurpose trash. All of the props and costumes in

the play were made from reused cardboard, cans, containers, and plastic bags taken from the recycling bin. Imagination is the key! Through theatre, the 5- to 10-year-old actors learned how important it is to waste less and recycle more!

## **Gateway School recycles paper!**

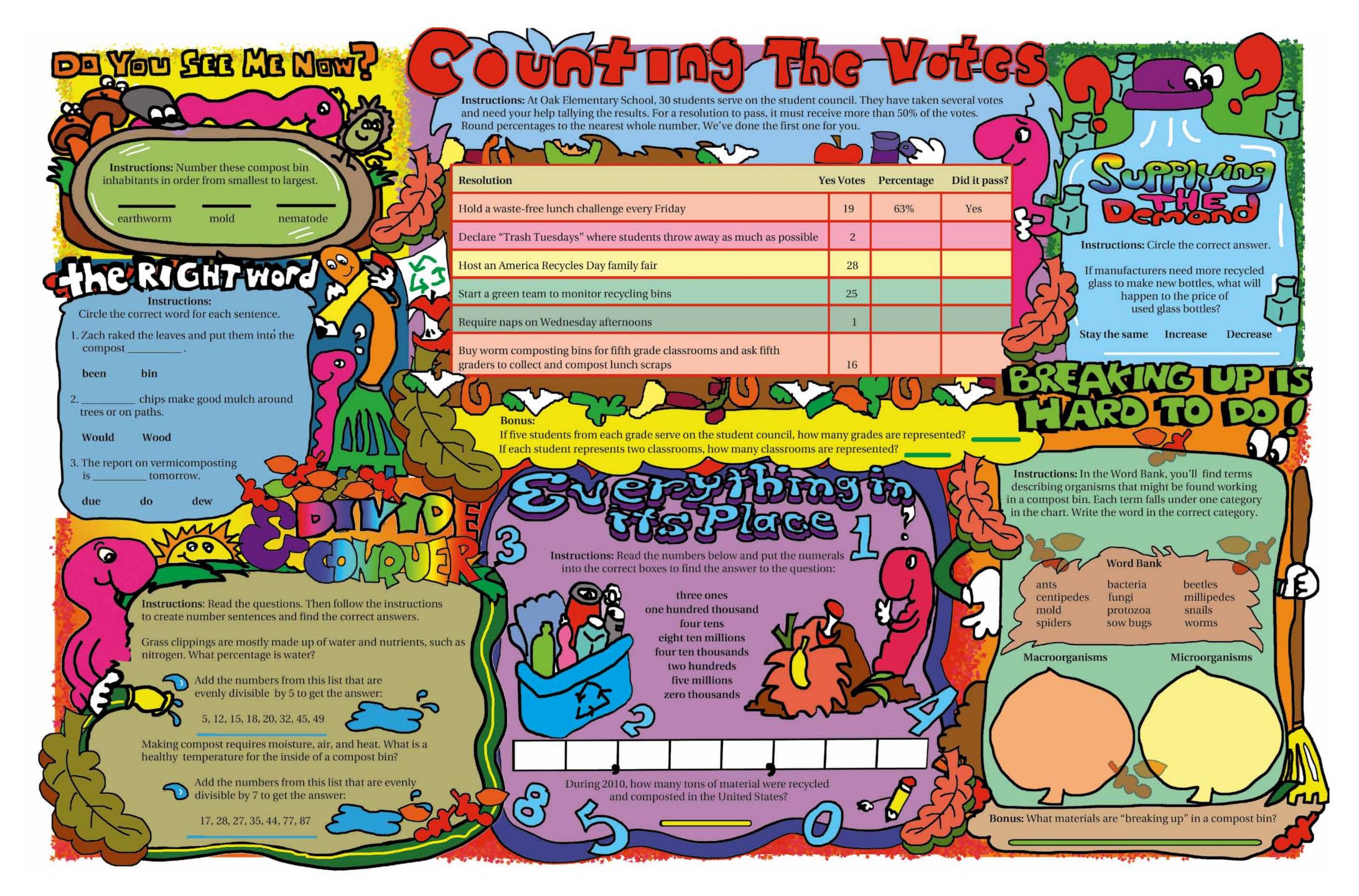
The City of Santa Cruz recycles about 4,500 tons of paper every year—that's over 12 tons a day! Every ton of paper that we recycle keeps about 17 new trees from being cut down. So right here in the City of Santa Cruz, we save over 76,000 trees a year. That's an entire

forest! Paper mills use recycled paper to make new paper products, such as paper towels, egg cartons, and cereal boxes.

Fourth grade students at Gateway School collected used notebook and office paper and learned how to make new paper. They discovered that handmade paper is made from paper pulp



just like at the big paper mills. For fun, the students saved marigold seeds from the Life Lab garden and added them to the paper pulp. They turned their handmade seed paper into special Mother's Day cards. The Gateway moms can plant their cards in flower pots or garden beds, and next spring, new marigold flowers will grow!



#### **Congratulations, poster contest** winners!

In honor of Earth Day, the City of Santa Cruz holds the annual Santa Cruz Recycles! poster contest. The contest gives students like you a chance to create imaginative posters showing ways to reduce waste and recycle in Santa Cruz. Congratulations to the 2012 winning student-artists:







Elementary • Isabella, Grade 4, Alternative Family Education Look for their giant-sized posters on the sides of the City's refuse and recycling trucks. And don't forget, during November and December, you may view the Santa Cruz Recycles! posters in a show at the Downtown Public Library (upstairs).

Next spring you can enter, too! Look for information about the 2013 poster contest in the spring issue of *Trash Talk!* or online anytime at: www.cityofsantacruz.com/truckposters.

#### **Dori Poles get a workout!**

Festive Dori Poles and pennants, the no-waste alternative to balloons, were a big hit during end-of-school year events last May and June. The schools in Santa Cruz that used the Dori Poles really care about the environment! They pledged not to use balloons



and other throw-away decorations. Instead, the schools borrowed Dori Poles and pennants from the City of Santa Cruz. Schools used them to decorate graduation ceremonies, carnivals, track meets, and golf tournaments. The colorful pennants wave gently in the wind, and, best of all, they can be reused over and over again. Most decorations are used once

and thrown away. We all know that "away" means the landfill. Thank you, Santa Cruz City schools, for using Dori Poles and pennants, the no-waste decoration! If your school has a special event coming up, call us at 420-5449 to reserve Dori Poles and pennants.

### Reusable bags for fruits and vegetables

We use a lot of plastic bags! They are a big problem when they get loose in the environment and become litter. Most families remember to bring reusable shopping bags to the grocery store and farmers market every time they shop,



but what about produce bags for fresh fruits and vegetables? The City of Santa Cruz Public Works Department has the answer—a reusable cloth produce bag! Families can fill the sturdy cloth bags with fruits or vegetables instead of using plastic produce bags. At

the Earth Day celebration, Santa Cruz kids had fun coloring their new cloth produce bags with fabric markers. Now, families of those children have their own special bags to take to the farmers market or grocery store. Reusable produce bags are the next step in reducing our trash!

#### October 6th & 7th is Garage Sale Weekend!

Is your family thinking about having a garage sale? Plan it now! The City of Santa Cruz Public

Garage Sale Weekend

Works Department will help promote your sale. We have added an exciting new feature to Garage Sale Weekend—an online treasure map! You list your sale on our community-wide garage sale treasure map, and shoppers use the map to find the sales. Every year, the City hosts

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Garage Sale Weekend to promote reuse in our community. So, clean out your garage, closets, and drawers, and host a garage sale! Learn more at www.cityofsantacruz.com/garagesales.



Mission Hill Middle School students worked in teams to create dazzling recycled glass mosaics that reflect the agricultural products of Santa Cruz County, including all of the beautiful flowers, sweet fruit, and tasty vegetables that grow here. You will also find chicken and sheep designs, and even one with honey bees. The mosaics are made from hundreds of tiny pieces of recycled art glass in a rainbow of colors. The students had to cut, fit, and glue each little piece of glass into their designs. Ninety-three mosaics were installed on the Soquel Avenue Bridge that spans the San Lorenzo River. Take a walk over the bridge to see all of the mosaics—it's worth the trip! Students are proud to have something they made become a part of the community that can be enjoyed for years to come.

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**Funded by the City of Santa Cruz Public Works Department** 



