

Trash Talk!



**NORTHEAST INDIANA
SOLID WASTE
MANAGEMENT DISTRICT**
*Serving DeKalb, LaGrange,
Noble and Steuben Counties*

Fall 2021

“Re-leaf” is in sight!

After school, the air is crisp and cool. Autumn leaves are turning yellow, orange, and red. You know what that means — the chores are about to begin! Talk to your parents about reusing your autumn leaves instead of bagging them right away. Here are some “re-leaf” ideas:

- ◆ Make a pile and jump into it with your friends. Remember to record your good memories by taking pictures or videos.
- ◆ Save some of the most colorful leaves and press them between sheets of paper (waxed paper or parchment paper from the kitchen work well) between heavy books or bricks.
- ◆ Using a mulching mower, shred leaves and let them stay on the grass. The shredded leaves will provide a winter cover to protect grass roots and soil and will decay by spring. If you have a lot of leaves, you’ll need to mow often during the weeks when the most leaves fall.
- ◆ Use your family’s mower to create leaf mulch. Simply attach the bagger and collect the leaves. Your mower will shred the leaves as it picks them up, creating a great mulch. Put the leaf mulch on your garden or flower beds, around trees, or on paths. Leaf mulch will help keep moisture in the soil where plants will be able to use it next spring.
- ◆ Pick up shredded leaves with the mower or rake up whole leaves and add them to your compost bin.



Credit: SerrNovik | iStock | Getty Images Plus

After you’ve mulched and composted your leaves, you might have a few bags left over. You can recycle the extras at the yard waste composting lots throughout the District. The lots are open during daylight hours. There is no charge to bring yard waste into the lots. Look for the compost lot nearest you at the District website, www.niswmd.org, under “Recycling Programs.” The NISWMD is proud to offer finished compost to our residents for the small fee of \$10 per cubic yard. Mulch is also available for purchase at our compost lots for a \$10 loading fee. These items are a hot commodity, so please call the lots to be sure we’re open to serve you and have the materials you’re looking for!

Curbside yard waste and leaf collection may be offered in your city or town. Ask your parents to call your city or town hall for information.



Caution! Burning leaves can make people sick!

Smell burning leaves? Are your eyes watering? Are you coughing? Leaf burning releases harmful pollutants into the air. In fact, smoke from just five pounds of burning leaves creates a full pound of pollution. Leaf burning can create health hazards for children, the elderly, and people with breathing difficulties, such as asthma. A burning leaf pile can also start a larger fire, putting nearby properties at risk. Be a good neighbor — don’t burn your leaves!



Let us teach you how to compost!

The NISWMD is proud to announce that we now offer DIY Home Composting classes to our residents! This beginner composting course will teach you all you need to know about composting from home. Composting presentations are also available for schools. To sign up for a future class, please call the District office at 260-587-3063 or visit the Education page on our website at www.niswmd.org for more information.

Problem waste? No problem!

In our four-county District, you and your family don't have to worry about how to dispose of problem wastes, such as hazardous chemicals, computers and electronics, tires, car and household batteries, fluorescent tubes and bulbs, small propane tanks, and old appliances. These items are accepted year-round between 8 a.m. and noon on Fridays at the District facility in Ashley, located at 2320 West 800 South (on State Road 4, one mile east of I-69). Everyone who lives in DeKalb, LaGrange, Noble, and Steuben counties can use the Ashley facility. Some fees apply. Make sure your parents and grandparents know about this District facility. Learn more by calling our office, 800-777-5462, or visiting our website, www.niswmd.org.



As easy as ABC!

Need facts about recycling? We've got them! Looking for ways to reduce litter? We can help! We have a lot of fun, hands-on presentations on reducing, reusing, recycling, composting, preventing litter, and more. We can visit classrooms, as well as scout troops, clubs, after-school programs, and other youth groups.

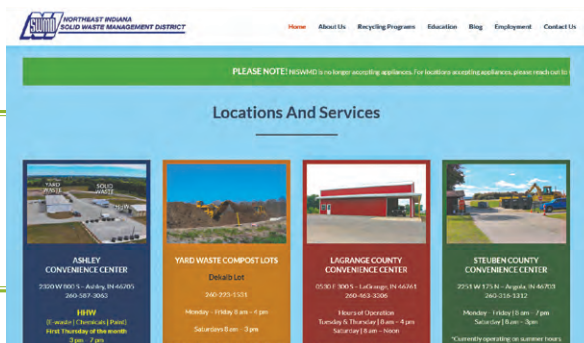


Credit: FatCamera | E+ | Getty Images

If your class or club is too busy for a presentation or safety restrictions are in place, we have plenty of resources that we can provide to your teacher or club leader. The District's educator has also created educational videos on topics such as composting, landfilling, and recycling various materials. To access these videos, please visit [YouTube.com](https://www.youtube.com) and search for "NISWMD Recycle."

Ask your teacher, scout leader, or club sponsor to contact us using the website form at www.niswmd.org/education or to call us at 800-777-5462 for up-to-date information regarding available programs. What could be easier?

To stay up to date on any program changes related to COVID, please visit our website at www.niswmd.org.



Meet Helping Ninjas Leo and Layla

Twelve-year-old Leo Berry and his little sister Layla from Carmel, Indiana, love to show other kids how to make compost. Compost is made from rotting plant-based materials that have been broken down naturally by insects, bacteria, and other microorganisms. Composting can take all the garbage that comes from plants — like leaves, banana peels, leftover peas, and even paper — and recycle it to improve soil and help feed new plants.

Leo, Layla, and a group of their friends formed a group called the Helping Ninjas about four years ago. According to Leo, Helping Ninjas are “highly skilled at helping,” and they do all sorts of projects that help people and the environment. Over the years, they have planted organic gardens and donated the vegetables they grew to a nearby food pantry, they have planted pollinator gardens, they have taught students about composting, and more.

Leo and Layla first started composting in 2018, when the Helping Ninjas applied for a Carmel Green Teen grant to pay for seeds and supplies to plant a garden and teach other kids in the local elementary schools how and why to compost. This was one of Leo’s favorite projects. The students worked with their school cafeteria manager to start composting cafeteria scraps (like apple cores, leftover carrots, and potato peels) by using a school worm composting bin that could also be used by teachers as a fun, educational tool. Leo noted that composting with worms is called vermicomposting.

“I think it is important that all kids learn how to help the Earth by composting,” says Layla. The Helping Ninjas have been busy doing their part, teaching over 150 kids in after-school programs throughout Central Indiana how composting works by having them make take-home, mini compost bins in glass jars. (See below to learn how to make your own compost jar.)

Leo, Layla, and the Helping Ninjas continue teaching kids and adults to compost. Composting is easy and inexpensive because you just use what gets thrown away anyway! In America, food scraps and yard waste together make up about one-third of what we throw away, so composting at home and at school can keep a lot of garbage out of landfills. Compost can be used to create healthier soil and feed lawns, flowers, gardens, and other plants.

Layla adds, “Whether you are a kid who likes composting, planting flowers for pollinators, or recycling, every little bit helps.” Find your inner ninja and try composting today!

To learn about the Helping Ninjas or to start a group of your own, visit www.helpingninjas.com.



*Leo and Layla
having some fun
in the garden*

Make compost in a jar!

Based on Leo and Layla’s Helping Ninjas project

A composting jar is a fun way to learn about composting and watch it in action. This is a great project to do around Halloween because you can use chopped up pumpkin parts (minus the seeds) as the vegetable scraps. Make sure you add the soil to provide the decomposer microorganisms (tiny creatures, including bacteria and fungi) that help break down the food scraps to make compost.

What you need for each jar:

1 large (1-liter) empty mason jar or any other large jar (The bottom half of a 2-liter soda bottle also works. Ask an adult to carefully cut it in half for you.)

1 empty paper towel tube, cut into 1” pieces (Or, you can use 2 empty toilet paper tubes or half of a cardboard egg carton — cut or torn into 1” pieces.)

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Photo courtesy of Lindsey Berry of Helping Ninjas



1 cup of vegetable or fruit scraps (leftover bits that would normally get thrown away)

1 cup of brown leaves

¼ cup of soil (dirt from the ground or packaged potting soil)

½ cup of water

spoon for mixing

Directions:

In a large jar, add the cut-up cardboard, vegetable or fruit scraps, dry leaves, and soil. Stir or place the lid on and shake. Add water. Stir or shake. **Take the lid off.** Place the jar on the kitchen counter or near a windowsill and watch the food scraps become compost! **IMPORTANT:** Continue to stir the jar once or twice a week. Add a tablespoon or two of water each week if the mixture looks dry.

It takes about four weeks for the mixture to become compost. You will know the compost is ready when the mixture looks like soil. The smaller the food scraps, the faster the mix will break down to become compost. Adding worms to your compost also speeds up the process, but you'll need to cover the jar with cheesecloth to keep the worms inside and provide the mixture and worms with air.

NOTE: Never add these to a compost pile: dairy products, like milk and cheese; anything that came from an animal, like meat or bones; pet waste; or fats. These items attract pests and make the compost pile stink.

Mix it up!

To make healthy compost, you need five things: decomposer microorganisms, nitrogen, carbon, water, and air.

Decomposer Microorganisms (Decomposers)

Tiny creatures like bacteria, fungi, and protozoa are needed to create compost. These decomposers are found in the soil and on leaves and plants. They are so small that they don't have mouths, so they don't eat things the way animals or insects do. But they do take what you add to the compost pile and break it down into smaller and smaller parts. Just like you, they need water, air, and different types of food to stay healthy.

Nitrogen

Things that were once growing and are not dried out yet provide nitrogen and water for compost. These include fruits, vegetables, or green yard waste, like banana peels, apple cores, grass, and green leaves. People who compost call these items "greens." Food scraps and green yard waste are high in nitrogen and give the decomposer microorganisms protein to grow.

Carbon

Things that were once growing and are now all dried out contain more carbon for the compost. These include cardboard and paper (made from trees), brown leaves, wood chips, and straw. People who compost call these items "browns." Carbon provides energy for decomposer microorganisms as they break down the items you add to your compost pile.

1 GREEN + 2 BROWNS + DECOMPOSERS + WATER + AIR = Healthy Compost Mix

Making compost is like following a recipe in the kitchen. It's best to add the right amount of each ingredient. To make healthy compost, you need about one part of nitrogen-containing scraps (greens), two parts of carbon-containing scraps (browns), a handful of dirt (contains decomposer microorganisms), enough water to keep it damp, and air. You can provide air by stirring the compost regularly and add water when it starts to dry out. Don't worry too much about the exact amount of "greens" and "browns." If the compost gets too wet, add more browns. If it gets too dry, add water. Try composting today!



Credit: Jupiterimages | Pixland | Getty Images Plus

America Recycles. I recycle. Do you?

Every day, people across America recycle. We hope that you are one of those people. Did you recycle yesterday? Have you recycled yet today? If not, now is a fantastic time to start!

Each year, recycling keeps more than one-third of our nation's trash out of landfills. When we recycle, we save energy, conserve natural resources, and create jobs. When we landfill, we waste a lot of good resources.

When you and your family recycle, you make a simple choice that makes a big difference. For example, recycling just one aluminum can saves enough electricity to power a flat-screen TV for three hours.

This fall, we'll celebrate America Recycles Day on November 15. America Recycles Day is all about celebrating everything good about recycling while encouraging people to:

- ◆ Recycle at home, work, school, and on the go
- ◆ Buy products made from recycled materials (recycled-content)
- ◆ Educate and inspire friends, family, and neighbors to take the #BeRecycled Pledge

What will you do this America Recycles Day? Will you learn exactly what can be recycled where you live? Will you recycle at school? Will you talk to your parents and neighbors about recycling? How might you creatively promote recycling in your neighborhood or on social media? It's simple to start the conversation — just say, "I recycle. Do you?"

Curbside recycling is available in some communities within the District. Residents should contact their city/town for program details and guidelines on what is currently accepted in their curbside bins. The District operates drop-off recycling stations throughout its four counties. They are open 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Have you seen our new bins? Instead of separate bins for different items, we now have all-in-one bins for all of your recycling. No more sorting at home! You and your family can place all of your recyclables in the same bin. "All In One Bin, Toss It In" recycling guidelines and station locations are posted on our website, www.niswmd.org, under "Recycling Programs." Now you can drop cardboard, newspaper, plastic bottles and containers, glass bottles and jars, and metal cans into one easy-to-use bin.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency also teaches about reducing, reusing, and recycling at www.epa.gov/recycle. Take the #BeRecycled Pledge and learn more about America Recycles Day at www.AmericaRecyclesDay.org.



AMERICA RECYCLES DAY®

A KEEP AMERICA BEAUTIFUL® PROGRAM

**Count
on me!**

I want to pledge
my support
for America
Recycles Day on
November 15!

☐ I pledge to reduce the amount of waste I produce.

☐ I pledge to find out what materials I can recycle in my community.

☐ I pledge to recycle regularly, setting a good example in my neighborhood.

☐ I pledge to recycle batteries, cell phones, and other electronic items at drop-off events or facilities.

☐ I pledge to buy more recycled-content products, such as folders, loose-leaf paper, and spiral notebooks for school.

☐ I pledge to tell five friends that recycling saves energy, creates jobs, and reduces pollution.

Shop like a recycler

How does a recycler shop? By buying products that contain recycled materials, of course! Fortunately, shopping for goods that are made from recycled paper, plastic, metal, or glass is easy. These “recycled-content” products are made from stuff that people have recycled. Here are some examples: printer and notebook paper, folders, wrapping paper, greeting cards, fleece hoodies, T-shirts, jewelry, steel food cans, aluminum drink cans, glass bottles and jars, molded-paper egg cartons, laundry detergent jugs, bicycles, and exercise mats.

Remember to check the package or the tag for the recycling symbol and phrases like “recycled,” “recycled content,” or “post-consumer content.”

Simple waste-free lunches

Packing a waste-free lunch is so easy! You probably have everything you need in your kitchen at home. When you go home today, check.

1. You'll need a reusable bag or box.
This might be a lunch bag that keeps things cool (called an “insulated” bag), a decorated lunch box, a large plastic container with a lid, or even a tote bag.
2. Find washable, reusable containers and utensils (forks and spoons). You probably have plenty of these at home. Check the cabinets. Just make sure that you have containers with lids that match.
3. Pack your lunch. Make a sandwich or wrap and put it into a reusable container. Put cut-up veggies, cookies, crackers, or fruit into your other washable containers. Not only is this a waste-free lunch, but it will probably also be cheaper. Buying food in larger quantities is usually not as expensive as buying the same amount of food in lots of single-serving containers.
4. Take a drink. You can fill a reusable bottle with water, juice, or milk, or take a recyclable bottle.
5. Bring home all of your reusable containers and utensils, wash them, and start again.
6. Visit www.epa.gov/students/pack-waste-free-lunch and use the tools provided to encourage your classmates to pack waste-free lunches, too!



courtneyk | E+ | Getty Images

Northeast Indiana Solid Waste Management District

2320 West 800 South • P.O. Box 370
Ashley, IN 46705

800-777-5462 • www.niswmd.org
info@niswmd.org

Runaway Run-Ons

Read each run-on sentence. Fix it in two ways: on the first line, write two simple sentences; and on the second line, write one compound sentence using either a comma and coordinating conjunction or a semicolon.

1. Sophia mowed up the fallen leaves Jacob spread the shredded leaves on the garden.

2. Isabella raked leaves in her aunt's yard Mason took them to the compost pile.

3. Put the cover back on the compost bin put the rake back in the garage.

4. The America Recycles Day party will be held on November 15 Ms. Johnson's class will plan the party.

5. William, Emma, and Jayden are planning games for the party they asked their classmates for ideas.

6. The class is collecting cereal boxes they only want flattened, empty boxes.

7. Elijah gathered old magazines and colored paper David got scissors and glue.

8. Liam wrote a short story about recycling Aiden drew a poster for the party.

9. There will be game and craft stations at the party up to four students may be at each station.

10. Use the computer to make signs for each station set the signs onto the tables.

Puzzling Clues

The students in Miss Garcia's class are selling worm compost (vermicompost) as a school fundraiser. Use the clues to figure out how many bags of vermicompost each student sold.

Clues:

- A. Lucy sold five bags more than Jamal.
- B. Jamal sold twice as many bags as Santiago.
- C. Sara sold five bags fewer than Santiago.
- D. Jamal sold four times as many bags as Sara.
- E. Santiago sold ten bags.

Questions:

1. Which clue did you use first? _____
2. Was there any clue you didn't need? _____
3. Who sold the most bags? _____
4. Who sold the least bags? _____
5. How many bags did each person sell? _____



Credit: kai19 | E+ | Getty Images

Time After Time

A time capsule is a container that holds articles from a certain place and time. Time capsules are usually buried or built into a sealed place to be opened many years later. They are meant to show people in the future what life was like at the time they were buried.

At Lincoln Elementary School, students found and dug up a time capsule that had been buried next to the school playground. A note inside the time capsule asked the students to count and add up the number of items. They counted:

- 1000 Bottle Caps
- 601 Aluminum Cans
- 373 Plastic Lego Bricks
- 20 Newspapers
- 3 Nerf Balls



Credit: SABarton | iStock |
Getty Images Plus

Add the number of objects. The total number of objects will give you the year the time capsule was buried, but not the reason. The time capsule was buried to celebrate the first year that people all across America celebrated the importance of recycling and buying recycled-content products.

1. What was the year? _____
2. What was the event that was being celebrated? _____

Buried Treasure

The experiment below will help you understand how trash can decompose, or break down, in different places. To complete this experiment, you will need four apple cores, two plastic bags, three colanders (strainers), three bricks or heavy objects, a shovel or digging tool, gloves, and an outdoor area with soil.

Instructions:

1. Place two of the apple cores inside plastic bags (one per bag). Make sure the bags are sealed tightly so that no air can get in or out.
2. Place one bag inside where it can be easily observed.
3. Take the other bag outside and bury it under an inch or two of soil.
4. Place a colander over the buried bag to prevent animals from getting to the apple. Place a brick or heavy object on top of the colander.
5. Take the remaining two apple cores outside as well.
6. Bury one core an inch or two under the ground and leave the other sitting on top of the soil.
7. Place a colander and heavy object over each apple without a bag to keep animals out.
8. Wait for a week or two, then uncover and observe the apples. Be sure to use gloves when picking up or handling the apples.
9. Answer these questions in your log: How much did each apple decompose (rot or break down)? Did some apples decompose more than others? If so, which ones?



Credit: MichaelJay | iStock
| Getty Images Plus

Questions:

1. Which of the apple cores do you think would be most like how a bag of trash would break down in a landfill? Why? _____

2. Did the apple core that is most like a bag of trash in a landfill break down faster or slower than the other apple cores? _____

3. What does this tell you about landfills? _____

4. Which apple core broke down the fastest? Why? _____

5. What environmentally friendly method for getting rid of trash does this seem like? _____



Credit: FatCamera | E+ | Getty Images

Supplying the Demand

In economics (the study of buying and selling goods and services), there is a connection between supply and demand. Supply is how much of an item is available to sell. Demand is how much of that item people want to buy. The price of an item is often linked to the supply and demand for it.

Use the examples below to think about how and why supply and demand are related to each other. Decide whether the item has a **“high demand and low supply”** or **“low demand and high supply.”** Circle the correct answer.

1. At the secondhand store, children’s costumes increase in price before Halloween. Why?
 - A. High demand and low supply
 - B. Low demand and high supply
2. In the winter at the secondhand store, flip-flops go on sale for half the price they were sold for in the summer. Why?
 - A. High demand and low supply
 - B. Low demand and high supply
3. During the pandemic, many people ordered items online that arrived in corrugated cardboard boxes. Some people didn’t recycle these boxes. Factories had to increase production of boxes but had trouble getting enough used boxes. Why?
 - A. High demand and low supply
 - B. Low demand and high supply
4. A manufacturing facility that makes recycled plastic lumber closes for several months to install new equipment. The nearby recycling center ends up with unsold plastic milk jugs, typically used to make plastic lumber. Why?
 - A. High demand and low supply
 - B. Low demand and high supply
5. If something is in high demand and low supply, the price goes:
 - A. Up
 - B. Down
6. If an item is in low demand and high supply, the price goes:
 - A. Up
 - B. Down

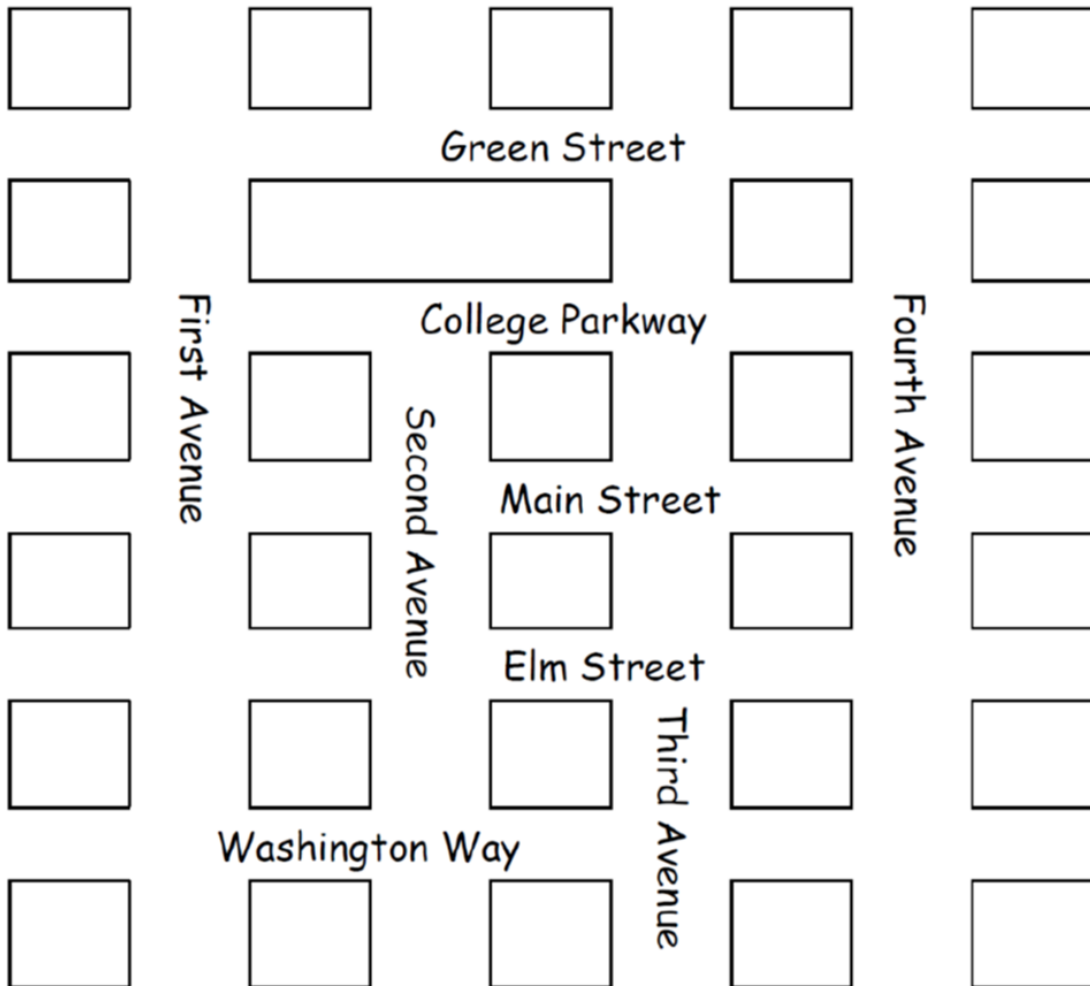
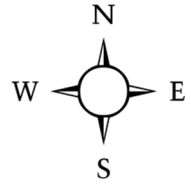


Credit: Jaron | iStock | Getty Images Plus

Take a Hike

Directions: Help Michael and Mykayla find their way to the New 2 You Game Store. Follow the route given. Then answer the questions below.

- ◆ Start at the corner of Second Avenue and Washington Way.
- ◆ Go one block north, turn left, and continue for one block.
- ◆ Walk north for three blocks.
- ◆ Go east for three blocks.
- ◆ Walk south for three blocks.
- ◆ Go west one block. The New 2 You Game Store is on the northeast corner. Put an X there.



Questions:

1. Where is the New 2 You Game Store? At the corner of _____ and _____
2. If each block is $\frac{1}{8}$ of a mile long, how far did you walk? _____
3. Was there a shorter way to get to the store from where you started? _____

If yes, describe that route: _____

Reuse Ideas

Math

- ◆ If the school earned \$6 for each bag of vermicompost sold in the fundraiser, how much would Liliana raise if she sold 25 bags? If Miss Garcia's class sold a total of 348 bags, how much did the class raise?
- ◆ Solve these problems: $1000 \div 20 = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$
 $373 \times 20 = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$
- ◆ If Jack's mother was born in 1975, what birthday did she celebrate in 1997?
- ◆ What is the volume of a compost bin that is 4 feet high by 4 feet wide by 4 feet deep?

English/Language Arts

- ◆ Locate an exclamatory sentence in the newsletter.
- ◆ Find an address in the newsletter.
- ◆ Write the past tense of these verbs:
choose _____
cut _____
bring _____
become _____
give _____
think _____
- ◆ Write these words in ABC (alphabetical) order:
aunt apple articles America arrived aluminum

- ◆ Find a word that is a synonym of *garbage*.

Science

- ◆ Select the term that doesn't belong:
☐ decay ☐ grow ☐ rot ☐ biodegrade
- ◆ Are leaves from trees organic or inorganic?

- ◆ Complete this analogy:
earthworms : vermicompost :: yard waste: _____

- ◆ If you were going to start composting, which of these tools might be useful? Why and how?
- ☐ hammer ☐ rake ☐ paint brush ☐ shovel
☐ pitchfork ☐ screwdriver

Social Studies

- ◆ In 1997, who was President of the United States? In football, which team won the Super Bowl?

- ◆ America Recycles Day started in my state. I am also the home of the Alamo. What state am I?

- ◆ Which state is closer to Texas — Illinois or Oregon?

Journal Writing Prompts

- ◆ Using the letters in the word “decomposition,” make as many words as you can. You can use the letters more than once.

- ◆ Describe yourself as you think a friend might describe you.

- ◆ Write a paragraph using these words: *rake, friend, fall, leaves, and weekend*
- ◆ Have you volunteered recently? If so, how and where? Write a paragraph about your experience.
- ◆ Write an acrostic poem for America Recycles Day. Use the letters in “America Recycles Day” to begin the lines.

Teacher Keys for Activities

Runaway Run-Ons (Answers will vary.)

1. ... fallen leaves. Jacob spread ...
... fallen leaves, and Jacob spread ...
2. ... aunt's yard. Mason took ...
... aunt's yard, and Mason took ...
3. ... compost bin. Put the rake ...
... compost bin, and put the rake ...
4. ...held on November 15. Ms. Johnson's class...
...held on November 15, and Ms. Johnson's ...
5. ...games for the party. They asked...
...games for the party, so they asked...
6. ...cereal boxes. They only...
...cereal boxes, but they only...
7. ...colored paper. David got...
...colored paper; David got...
8. ...about recycling. Aiden drew...
...about recycling, and Aiden drew...
9. ...stations at the party. Up to four...
...stations at the party, and up to four...
10. ...for each station. Set the signs...
...for each station, and set the signs...

Time After Time

1. 1997
2. The first America Recycles Day was being celebrated.

Puzzling Clues

1. E (Answers may vary.)
2. B or D (Answers may vary.)
3. Lucy
4. Sara
5. Lucy – 25, Jamal – 20, Santiago – 10, Sara – 5

Buried Treasure

1. The buried bag best represents a landfill because landfills have liners and are covered.
2. Items in the plastic bag break down more slowly than trash buried straight into the ground.
3. Landfills are not ideal for breaking down organic matter like apple cores quickly.
4. The buried, unbagged apple core breaks down fastest.
5. Composting

Supplying the Demand

1. A
2. B
3. A
4. B
5. A
6. B

Take a Hike

1. The New 2 You Game Store is at the corner of Elm Street and Third Avenue.
2. One and a half miles
3. Yes. From Second Avenue and Washington Way, go east one block, then north one block. (Answers may vary.)

Skills and Standards

Activity	Subject Areas	Skills Addressed
Runaway Run-Ons	<i>English/ Language Arts</i>	Writing correct, complete simple sentences and compound sentences with coordinating conjunctions; Demonstrating command of capitalization and punctuation, especially semicolons and commas in compound sentences Grade 3: 3.RF.2.3; 3.W.6.1E Grade 4: 4.RF.2.3; 4.W.6.1E
Puzzling Clues	<i>Math</i>	Solving real-world problems involving addition, subtraction, and multiplication; Making sense of problems and seeking entry points to a solution; Modeling with mathematics; Representing and interpreting data; Reasoning abstractly and quantitatively Grade 3: 3:C Grade 4: 4.C; 4.AT.4 Process Standards: PS1; PS2; PS.4
Buried Treasure	<i>Science</i>	Following precisely a multi-step procedure when carrying out experiments; Investigating the action of different decomposers and comparing their roles in the ecosystem; Describing methods humans currently use to extend the use of natural resources; Constructing and performing fair investigations in which variables are controlled; Identifying a problem and designing solutions; Investigating ways individual communities within the United States protect the Earth's resources and environment Grade 3: 3.LS.2; 3-5.E.1; 3-5.E.2; 3-5.E.3 Grade 4: 4.LS.2; 3-5.E.1; 3-5.E.2; 3-5.E.3 Process Standards: SEPS.1-8
Time After Time	<i>Social Studies</i>	Understanding events and developments that brought important changes; Demonstrating an understanding of civic issues; Examining ways people have tried to solve environmental problems Grade 3: 3.2.5; 3.2.6 Grade 4: 4.1.13; 4.2.6
	<i>Math</i>	Adding whole numbers; Solving real-world problems involving addition of multi-digit whole numbers Grade 3: 3.C.1; 3.C.2; 3.C.3 Grade 4: 4.C.1; 4.AT.1; 4.DA.1
Supplying the Demand	<i>Social Studies</i>	Explaining that prices change as a result of changes in supply and demand for specific products; Understanding that buyers and sellers interact to determine the prices of goods and services Grade 3: 3.4.6 Grade 4: 4.4.4
Article Text	<i>English/ Language Arts</i>	Reading and comprehending nonfiction, informational text; Applying context clues to determine meaning of unknown words; Determining meaning of content specific words and phrases in nonfiction text; Developing media literacy Grade 3: 3.RN.1; 3.RN.2.1; 3.RN.2.2; 3.RN.3.1; 3.RN.4.1; 3.RV.2.1; 3.RV.3.2; 3.ML.1 Grade 4: 4.RN.1; 4.RN.2.1; 4.RN.2.2; 4.RN.3.1; 4.RN.4.1; 4.RV.2.1; 4.RV.3.2; 4.ML.1