

## TEACHER GUIDE

# Trash Talk!

TO: Teachers

FROM: Howard County Recycling District  
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In this edition of *Trash Talk!*, we look forward to Earth Day in April. Inside this Teacher Guide, we have provided ideas to “reuse” the newsletter for daily instruction, journal writing prompts for students, and an extension activity. For your convenience, you will find Teacher Keys as well.

Below, we provide information about this issue’s activities so that you can incorporate *Trash Talk!* into your daily curriculum.

Activity	Subject Areas	Skills Addressed
Sign Sense	<i>Language Arts</i>	Demonstrating knowledge of appropriate words related to different issues; Using word context and textual clues to determine the meaning of unknown words; Spelling
All in a Day	<i>Social Studies</i>	Using information resources to evaluate a contemporary issue that involves civic responsibility and the common good; Describing the impact of humans on the physical environment
	<i>Language Arts</i>	Interpreting information presented visually
	<i>Science</i>	Using numerical data to describe and compare objects and events; Spotting patterns in data to recognize trends; Reading and interpreting graphs; Understanding how changes in the environment can be beneficial or detrimental
Truly Terrific Trees	<i>Math</i>	Solving problems involving addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division of whole numbers; Subtracting with decimal and whole numbers
Answered & Asked	<i>Science</i>	Understanding that humans employ multiple mechanisms to extend the life of natural resources
Sum It Up	<i>Math</i>	Solving a two-step word problem; Dividing with whole numbers; Using factor pairs for whole numbers up to 100
Comma Confusion	<i>Language Arts</i>	Identifying correct and incorrect usage of punctuation in writing
Turn Back Time	<i>Social Studies</i>	Interpreting the temporal relationship between an event with a fixed historical date and a timeline of other events and developments; Distinguishing fact from fiction in an informational text

# Reuse Ideas

## Math

- If one person creates 4.43 pounds of trash per day, how many pounds does a family of 4 create? What about a family of 3?
- Highlight a phone number and a street address.
- Find the sum: 1, 3, 5, 6, 7, 9, 11, 13, 16
- Circle the numbers that are evenly divisible by 3 and 7:  
7, 8, 13, 14, 21, 22, 27, 28, 35, 36, 42, 43
- How many years have passed since 1830?

## Language Arts

- What suffix do these words share: tallest, largest, oldest? What does that suffix mean?
- Fill in the blanks with a pair of homophones:  
\_\_\_\_\_ see the recycling center, drive \_\_\_\_\_ blocks west.
- Write these words in ABC (alphabetical) order:  
time      truly      terrific      trees      turn
- What one word can precede each of these words:  
\_\_\_\_\_ wood      \_\_\_\_\_ coat      \_\_\_\_\_ head

## Science

- What is our state tree?
- Circle the item that does not belong:  
bark      dog      trunk      leaves      roots
- Name two ways that trees help people.

## Social Studies

- Which of these years were U.S. Presidential election years?  
1960      1970      1980      1990      2000
- South Carolina borders the \_\_\_\_\_ Ocean. Name two more states that border this ocean.

## Journal Writing Prompts

Do you think of going to school and doing your homework as your job? Why or why not?

■

Ralph Waldo Emerson said: "Nothing great was ever achieved without enthusiasm." What are you enthusiastic about? Why?

■

How far do you live from school? Have you ever walked or biked to school? How do you get to school on most days?

■

If animals could talk, what are some of the questions you would want to ask them?

■

Describe your favorite fruit or vegetable without including its name. Now let a classmate read your description and guess which fruit or vegetable you were describing.

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## Puzzling Playlist

With the activity on the next page, give your students practice with decoding and spelling. This activity is similar to "Sign Sense," but, in this case, all of the vowels have the same substitution code.

Here are the answers: 1. In One Hundred Years; 2. Song for Seven Billion; 3. Morning, Evening, Another Day; 4. No Place I'd Rather Be; 5. Don't Try to Fool Mother Nature; 6. Water, Water Everywhere; 7. Garbage Won't Go Away; 8. Home Sweet Planet



# Puzzling Playlist



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**Instructions:** The deejay is puzzled! She was handed this playlist for an Earth Day party. The party starts soon, so she needs your help! All of the vowels are incorrect in these song titles. Replace the vowels in each title with the correct vowels and write the corrected title on the blank.

1. An Enu Hindrud Yuors

*In One Hundred Years*

2. Seng fer Suvun Ballaen

3. Mernang, Uvunang, Onethur Doy

4. Ne Plocu A'd Rothur Bu

5. Den't Try te Feel Methur Notiru

6. Wotur, Wotur Uvurywhuru

7. Gorbogu Wen't Ge Owoy

8. Hemu Swuut Plonut

**Bonus:** Create your own song title with mixed up vowels.

# Teacher Keys

## Sum It Up

How many billion pounds of materials were recycled and composted in the United States during 2010?

$$50 + 56 + 64 = 170 \text{ billion pounds}$$

What percentage of PET (#1 plastic) bottles and jars, such as water and soft drink bottles, were recycled in 2010?

$$6 + 7 + 16 = 29\%$$



## Comma Confusion

1. N (not correct) — Alexa asked Kaitlyn, “Will you help me plan a litter cleanup at the park?”
2. C (correct)
3. C
4. N — “OK,” said Kaitlyn. “I will pick up snacks. How about pretzels, apples, and bananas?”
5. C
6. N — Kaitlyn grabbed paper, markers, and glue, and the girls got started on the posters.



## Turn Back Time

**C:** The first mower was powered by an electric cord. (The first mower was not motorized. Electric power was not common in homes or businesses until the late 19th Century.)

## Answered & Asked

**#3** Recycling is “the process of turning products that otherwise would have been waste into resources used in manufacturing.”

## All in a Day

- |         |                 |
|---------|-----------------|
| 1. 2000 | 4. 3.25         |
| 2. 1960 | 5. 1980 to 1990 |
| 3. 1990 | 6. 0.29 pounds  |

## Truly Terrific Trees

- |          |        |
|----------|--------|
| 1. 389   | 1. 456 |
| 2. 53    | 2. 81  |
| 3. 424   | 3. 3   |
| 4. 1785  | 4. 429 |
| 5. 5355  | 5. 356 |
| 6. 379.3 | 6. 89  |

The Hyperion is **379.3** feet tall.

The largest limb on the Angel Oak is **89** feet long.



## Sign Sense

For each sign, the vowels are mixed up in a different pattern. For instance, on the first sign I becomes O, U becomes E, E becomes A, and O becomes U. On the next sign, E becomes U, A becomes O, I becomes A, U becomes I, and O becomes E. Each sign has a unique substitution pattern.

Open Monday – Saturday, 8-8

Unloading Zone

Cardboard Only

Mixed Paper

Bottles, Jars, Cans

Thanks for Recycling

Drive Carefully

