

WASTE-FREE FRIDAY ASSEMBLY

Written by 4th Grade Green Team

Jan. 7, 2011

Agenda: Costumes due Monday 1/3, Dress rehearsal Tuesday 1/4, 12:00 (in media center?) and assembly Friday 1/7.

Assembly Introduction:

1. **What? is Waste Free Fridays. Reducing the amount of food and packaging we throw in the trash.**
Motivated by the National Geographic contest we entered in December. The challenge was to either save energy, save water or reduce waste. After consideration of everything our school is currently doing to help our planet we decided to target waste reduction, specifically lunch room trash.
2. **WHY is it important to reduce our trash?** To protect consumption of Earth's resources (the stuff we use everyday) and reduce harmful pollution.
3. **Earth's provides essential resources, the ingredients of our stuff,** such as food, trees, fresh water and fuel necessary for us to live. But guess what? As our population grows, we consume more and more of the resources and some will eventually run out. We must protect our precious natural resources.
 - Our world seems plenty big with 7 continents, 195 countries and 4 oceans.
 - However, our population puts a huge demand on the Earth.
 - 315 million people US
 - 7 billion world
 - All living on this one single planet; eating, sleeping, driving, learning, working, playing, consuming.
5. **Consumption of resources generates** water pollution, land pollution and air pollution in the form of carbon dioxide or methane gas creating green house gases. That's where the term "Carbon footprint" comes from. Pollution is harmful to everybody and can make you sick.
6. Why protect our planet? For a healthier, happier environment with plenty of fresh food and water and pollution free!
7. How can one single kid make a difference? If everyone does their part, every individual action adds up to big results. You + you + you + you + you.....equals collectively huge, positive impacts on our planet by reducing our energy consumption and trash.
8. Introducing competition called "GREEN CLASS of the MONTH"
Classes who put in an extra "Green" effort to reduce their trash can be nominated as the Green Class of the month. We will celebrate with popcorn party and mini Peace, love & planet workshop.

It gives me great pleasure to introduce our Gill Green team and their solution how to reduce Gill Elementary's carbon footprint, Waste-Free Friday!

WASTE-FREE FRIDAY ASSEMBLY

Jan. 7th, 2011

How To Be Waste-Free

January 2011

Written by Gill Elementary 4th Grade Green Team members

This skit was created to kick off Gill Elementary's Waste-free Friday cafeteria program. The goal was to promote reducing cafeteria trash by developing an understanding of "why" it's important to reduce trash and provide solutions on "how" to accomplish being waste-free. Participating students were recognized by having their photo taken and added to the "Green Hall Of Fame". Reducing cafeteria trash can be achieved either by packing in reusable containers such as reusable water bottles, tupperware and eating fresh fruit like bananas that come in their own packing or simply eating all the food on your plate. We conducted a trash sort as an Earth Week activity enhancing kids understanding of what our trash looks like so they can avoid such items.

CAST MEMBERS:

Food:

Banana	-Dori
Carrot	-Luke
Broccoli	-Essence
Veggie TBD	-Jenna
Bread	-Preston
Pepper	-Sierra

Trash:

Plastic Baggie	-Jack
Milk container	-Kira
Snack pack	-Alex
Doritos	-Gabriella
Capri Sun pouch	-Savannah
Juice Box	-Vanessa
Plastic Water Bottle	-Chloe

Solutions:

Reusable Water Bottle	-Abbey Jones
Reusable Tupperware	-Deseree
Compost & Ms. Wormmy	-Shelby
Recycle Bin	-Johnny
Chef	-Sydney Levy

Walle:

-Mr. Mark

Students enter stage dressed in costumes concealed under black garbage bags.

WASTE-FREE FRIDAY ASSEMBLY

EVERYONE: *(Enter stage singing REDUCE, REUSE, RECYCLE like in video)*

PLASTIC BAGGIE Jack (Inside trash can, pop out): We got a problem people. You see it every day, heaping piles of trash and recyclables in the cafeteria.

MILK CONTAINER Kira: Where does it go?

RECYCLE BIN (hide inside bin until now and pop out): The recyclables go to a factory to be cleaned, crushed and made into something new to be used again.

MILK CONTAINER Kira: What about the trash?

WALLE *(pushed onto center stage)*: Allow me to explain. But first we need to take a look what's inside our trash.

EVERYONE: *(Remove your garbage bags)*

WALLE: After the trash is collected by a dump truck it's taken to a landfill where it's dropped into a humongous hole along with tons of other types of garbage. There it will get smashed, covered with dirt and left to rot 10-300 years.

EVERYONE: Gross.

WALLE: I'll say. And that's not all, as it decays it creates toxic gas called Methane. The sad thing is much of this trash could have been recycled. Instead it causes pollution.

TUPPERWARE: Disgusting! How can we help?

EVERYONE *(holding up sign)*: "Take part in Waste Free Fridays!"

LUNCHBOX Sparkle: First, be careful what you choose for lunch and especially **HOW YOU PACK IT**. If we reduce our lunchroom waste we can reduce how much goes into the landfill reducing pollution and saving precious natural resources!

JUICE BOX Vanessa: When are we going to save the planet?

EVERYONE: Every Friday

TUPPERWARE Deseree: From now until the end of the school year.

SNACKPACK Alex: How do better lunch choices reduce waste?

PLASTIC BAGGIE : It's all about reducing the amount of natural resources we use. Remember, REDUCE REUSE RECYCLE! I'm a plastic baggie. I get used one time and then thrown away into the trash. Did you know i come from petroleum oil? That's another type of fuel. Every time you use a plastic baggie you are CONSUMING or using oil. I think I'd rather REDUCE and save fuel for another day.

TUPPERWEAR Deseree: Yeah, I'm tupperwear and a much better packaging choice. I come in all shapes and sizes. My best feature is that I'm REUSABLE. You can use me over and over and over again which means NO WASTE.

I'm a better choice then a plastic baggie that you use one time and then throw away.

SNACKPACK Alex: I guess i never thought of it like that. Us snack packs are used only one time. What a waste.

WASTE-FREE FRIDAY ASSEMBLY

REUSABLE WATER BOTTLE: I'm a reusable water bottle and an awesome choice to bring to school everyday, not just Fridays! Water is super healthy.

PLASTIC WATER BOTTLE CHLOE: I'm a plastic water bottle too that you buy at the store and I'm healthy!

REUSABLE WATER BOTTLE: True, but you are designed to be used only one time. I'm like my buddy Tupperware, I can be used over and over....

JUICE BOX Vanessa: Ok, ok, ok! I think I get it. If we use less packaging then we won't have anything to throw in the trash and that means less in a landfill and less pollution?

EVERYONE: (*shakes head in agreement*) UM, hmm.

DORITO CHIP BAG: Take me for example, I'm a single-use, disposable bag of chips. Used one time for convenience and then tossed into a landfill. It takes years for me to decompose in a landfill. Ask your parents to buy big bags of snacks and send in a reusable bag or tupperware.

JUICE BOX: I'm a juice box and *I taste good* but I'm not very healthy because I'm full of sugar. Unfortunately, I get used only one time and then recycled if I'm lucky. But most of the time I get tossed into a landfill.

CAPRI SUN Savannah: Wait a minute? If we get recycled, which we do at our school can we come to school on Friday?

EVERYONE: NO!

RECYCLE BIN Johnny: Even though you can be recycled, it takes precious resources to produce you and energy to recycle you. Waste Free Friday is all about reducing consumption. A reusable water bottle, container or lunchbox is a much better choice.

SNACK PACK Alex: I guess that rules me out.

PLASTIC BAGGIE Jack: Me too.

BANANA Dori: Ok, The most important thing is to reduce. As in packaging. Look at me, I come in my own wonderfully natural packaging! But what about my peel? There are parts of fruits and veggies that you don't eat. Are there alternatives to a landfill?

COMPOST Shelby: Absolutely! I'm the compost collector and I'll be collecting all FRUIT and VEGETABLE waste every Friday. Instead of a landfill I'll be feeding you to my pal Mrs. Wormy.

BROCCOLI Essence: I'm Broccoli and although it's **best** if you **eat all your fruits and veggies**, anything you don't want the worms will love to eat!

CARROT Luke: Anything that grows from the ground can be fed to the worms. Fruits, veggies, bread and paper.

BREAD Preston: The micro organisms and worms love your left overs. They will turn your waste into amazing natural fertilizer we can then feed our gardens.

NO pesty chemicals. So bread like me that's made from wheat or pizza crust, bagels, french toast sticks can go into the compost.

VEGETABLE Jenna: What grows from the ground can easily break down and go back into it. No landfills necessary when it comes to disposing fruits, veggies and bread!

COMPOST: Our compost bin is located outside in the court yard by the cafeteria exit.

WASTE-FREE FRIDAY ASSEMBLY

It's OK to look at it but please be gentle, the bin is breakable.

DORITOS Gabriella: I think I understand. Waste-free Friday's is about reducing trash in a landfill. Every student is invited to participate and reduce trash on Fridays. Ask your parents to skip the "single use" snacks when packing lunches. Single use packaging like yogurts, chips, fruit roll ups get thrown away. We want to reduce our cafeteria trash!

CHEF Sydney: What about our hot lunches? How can we reduce our trash?

BREAD Preston: The first thing you do is make good choices in the cafeteria lunch line. **TAKE ONLY WHAT YOU CAN EAT.**

MILK CONTAINER Kira: Milk is really good for you but often times we run out of time and can not drink it. On Fridays, lets be supportive of our schools efforts and bring a reusable water bottle. Have your milk at home after school!

CAPRI SUN Savannah: I agree, I know I taste great, but on Fridays, please leave me at home. JUICE BOX Vanessa: And don't forget during the rest of the week to take my straw out when you are through drinking us! Plastic straws get recycled with plastic and card board juice boxes get recycled with cardboard. Two totally different collection bins!

WALLE: Lets review our alternatives to a landfill. First, remember to pack light! Reusable water bottles and containers. Fruits and veggies?

ALL FRUIT & VEGGIES: Here

WALLE: Gill students, where should these types of food waste go?

EVERYONE: In the compost!

WALLE: Milk carton, Juice boxes, plastic water bottle?

KIRA, VANESSA, CHLOE: Here!

RECYCLE BIN Johnny: Should we avoid these things on Fridays?

EVERYONE: Yes

RECYCLE BIN Johnny: When they are at school can we recycle them?

EVERYONE: YES, but remove the straw.

TRASH Jack: What else can we recycle?

RECYCLE BIN Johnny: Styrofoam trays (*steps forward and takes a bow*) Plastic, paper, juice and milk boxes and metal.

TRASH Jack: HOWEVER, we cannot recycle food! Please remember, as long as it doesn't have food on it, put it in the recycling bin. Yogurt containers are too messy and cannot be recycled unless we rinse them off. Metal from hot lunches can only be recycled if it doesn't have gooey food stuck to it. Juice and milk cartons can only be recycled if they are empty so if you open it, drink it!

WALLE: By George, I think you've got it! No go home and share this with your parents, after all, we'll need their support to make this happen.

On average we have 8 bags of trash and ___bags of recycling/day. We want to focus every Friday to reduce trash and food waste!

Lets target 4 bags or less of trash and 3 bags of recycling! You can do it Gill Elementary! I believe you can help save our planet!!!!

EVERYONE: Waste-Free is the way to be!