

# School Zero Waste Program Classroom Lessons & Activities

- **Why Should I Recycle? (K-2)** - Students will be introduced to the concept and practice of recycling and its importance to their lives. They will also learn what items can and cannot be recycled in Central Vermont! (30-45 minutes)
- **Take Out the Trash! An Introduction to the 3R's (3-6)** – Students will learn about the 3R's and start a discussion about the ways that everyday garbage can be reused and recycled. (45 minutes)
- **What's in the Trash? A Classroom Waste Audit (3-8)** – Students will see exactly what goes into their classroom trash can by dumping and sorting it then calculating how much is thrown away each year. They will learn how to reduce the amount of materials thrown away through increased composting, recycling and reuse. (60 + minutes)
- **It's A Wrap! (3-6)** - Students use math and observation skills to analyze the packaging of everyday items, learn to identify the types of waste created by packaging, and determine what types of packages can be recycled. (60 minutes)
- **Diggin' it Up! (4-8)** – Students will explore the consumption and waste patterns of different people from different times in Vermont history by examining objects they may have left behind. (45 – 60 minutes)
- **Packaging Your Product (7-12)** – Students examine product packaging and identify its various purposes. Students then design alternative packaging that uses fewer natural resources and minimizes waste and litter. (60 + minutes)
- **I want it! I need it! (4-6)** – Students play a sorting game to compare the difference between the things they need and the things they want. (60 minutes)
- **I want it! I need it! (7-12)** – Students evaluate the difference between the things they need and the things they want and analyze their consumption habits. (60 + minutes)

Contact School Zero Waste Coordinator for scheduling and info : 802.229.9383 x 111 / [schoolcoordinator@cvswwmd.org](mailto:schoolcoordinator@cvswwmd.org)

