**Classroom Recycling Walking Assembly Script**

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| **What is a “walking assembly?”**A walking assembly is a way to spread the word about your project! Together as a team, decide who will go to each classroom to present the details about your Classroom Recycling Campaign. **Directions**Print this script and distribute it to participants who will participate in the walking assembly. Visit each classroom and present the script to fellow students. We suggest bringing a few examples of recycling bins and/or paper as visual aids. You can also use this script as a part of morning announcements, a school-wide assembly, or as you see fit in your school community. |

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Note: Some elements of this script can be omitted to fit the resources available to your team.

**Introduction**

Hi! I’m (insert name) and I’m part of the Grades of Green Team here at (insert school name)! Grades of Green is an environmental education organization that supports our school’s green efforts. Our school is participating in their Launch Program to roll out the Classroom Recycling Toolkit to help our school decrease waste.

**The Facts**

Did you know Americans use about 31.5 million tons of printing and writing paper each year, meaning 660 pounds per person, which requires 535 million trees for its manufacturing ([greenschools.net](http://www.greenschools.net/article.php-id%3D75.html)). Trees are very important to the planet; as they grow, they help slow down climate change by removing carbon dioxide from the air, storing carbon in their leaves, trunks and roots, and releasing oxygen into the atmosphere ([arborday.org](https://www.arborday.org/trees/climatechange/)).

About 50% of the waste that comes out of schools is made up of paper and most of that paper waste will end up in a landfill. We want to reduce the amount of waste that our school is sending to landfills and we need your help to do it!

**Recycling**

We will be starting a classroom recycling program that everyone can participate in. You can place all clean, dry paper waste in this recycle bin rather than the trash can to be recycled (hold up recycle bin for students to see). This includes paper that has been written on with pencil, pen, markers or crayon, construction paper and magazines and brown paper bags (have examples on hand to show students). Paper products that cannot be recycled and should still go in the trash can are things like napkins, tissues, paper that has been painted on and laminated or plastic coated paper. Other clean, dry recyclable items can go in our classroom recycle bin as well. Plastic bottles, metals cans, tissue boxes, and cardboard can all be recycled. Students from each class will take these classroom recycling bins to our larger recycle bins on campus where they will be picked up by our waste hauler and taken to a recycling facility. Paper products can be recycled into new products about 5-7 times which reduces the amount of trees that need to be cut down to make new paper.

**Reducing**

Whenever possible, it’s always best to reduce the amount of waste we make in the first place, including paper waste. So, always think of ways you can reduce your use of paper before grabbing a fresh sheet. This includes writing on both sides of the paper, thinking before you print something out, taking notes on a computer or tablet when possible, and repurposing used paper for art projects.

**Closing**

By taking the time to reduce what we use, reuse items when we can, sort our recyclable waste and pick up litter, we are doing a lot to protect our environment. We will keep you updated on how our Classroom Recycling Activity is going through (insert method here, ex morning announcement, newsletter, etc). Go (school mascot here)!