



## Sample announcements about collection of food scraps and other compostable materials

Share announcements at lunch, in classrooms, on the PA system, and at assemblies. These sample announcements need to be revised depending on the color of your food scrap bin and other details. *Italicized words* need to be tailored to your school.

### Day 1

Starting today, you will see a new set up at lunch. At each recycling station, in addition to a container for leftover liquids, a blue recycling bin, and a garbage can, there's now a yellow (*or green*) bin for food scraps and food-soiled paper such as napkins.

Our food scraps and food-soiled paper will be collected and taken to a composting facility to be turned into nutrient-rich compost to nourish soil in gardens.

What can you place in the food scrap bin?

- Leftover food scraps such as bread, fruit, vegetables, meat, and dairy products
- Any food-soiled paper products such as napkins, paper towels, and pizza boxes

*Students and staff* at the bin will help answer questions. Also see the sign on the bin.

What's the best thing to do with milk at lunch? **Drink it!** What's the best thing to do with your food? **Eat it!** Your health is very important – and foods and drinks will help keep you healthy. But, whatever you cannot finish, please place in a yellow (*or green*) food scrap bin. Thanks for conserving natural resources by reducing waste and recycling!

### Day 2

Today at lunch we'll continue our new program to collect compostable materials such as food scraps and napkins. Food scraps and food-soiled paper will be collected in the bins with pictures of food on them. *Student monitors and staff will help you.*

Did you know that compostable materials such as food scraps can make up one third to one half of a school's waste?

Remember: **Take only what you will eat. And eat what you take.** Then place leftover food scraps in a yellow (*or green*) food scrap bin.

### Day 3

Thank you for reducing waste and recycling!

Let's talk about foods and beverages! What's the best thing to do with milk at lunch?

**Drink it!** What's the best thing to do with your food? **Eat it!** Those foods and beverages help keep you healthy.

Whatever you cannot finish, place in the yellow (*or green*) food scrap bins.

Keep up the good work!

### Day 4

Congratulations! Good work this week conserving natural resources by reducing waste and recycling! Keep up the good work!

Did you know that food scraps collected from our school are composted? That means the food scraps are turned into nutrient-rich compost that will nourish the soil in gardens. It only takes six weeks for the food scraps to turn into compost.

Here are a few important reminders.

- What belongs in the blue recycling bin? **EMPTY** milk cartons, **empty** plastic bottles, and **empty** aluminum cans belong in blue recycling bins. **No** liquids or foods should be placed in the blue recycling bins. Please drink all your beverages – or pour leftover liquids into the leftover liquids container. Only **empty** cartons, bottles, and cans belong in the blue bins.
- Food scraps and food-soiled paper such as napkins belong in the yellow (*or green*) bins with pictures of food on them.

Thank you for reducing waste and recycling!

### Day 5

This week at lunch, we kept a lot of material out of the garbage. ***(IF POSSIBLE – INCLUDE QUANTITIES collected this week to be recycled and composted)***

Recyclable materials are used to make new products – and that saves energy and water! And our food scraps are used to make compost.

Remember: **Take only what you will eat. And eat what you take.** Then place leftover food scraps in a yellow (*or green*) food scrap bin.

Keep up the great work! Thank you for reducing waste and recycling!

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