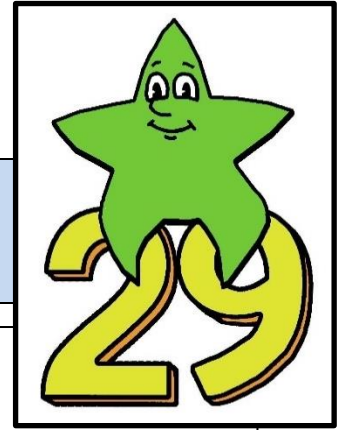


# Student Sponsor Group Celebration



eco-cycle

## Snapshot

Recognize and reward the effort students have put into their school's waste-reduction program.

<https://bit.ly/eco-cycle-zero-waste-schools-guide>

**Objective:** Students will understand that the work they are doing to bring Zero Waste practices into their school is important, appreciated, and worth recognition.

**Age Group:** K- 12<sup>th</sup> grade

**Setting:** Classroom or other meeting area in school building

**Project Duration:** 30-45 minutes

## Materials:

- Waste diversion data collected for the school year (see Reporting Progress, Chapter 28)
- Chart paper and markers
- Homemade cookies or other waste-free treats (check school allergy protocols)

## Why This Project Matters:

Zero Waste programs, like recycling and composting collection, can lead to a major reduction in school trash. By recognizing students' efforts in a fun, celebratory way, they are often motivated to help with future Zero Waste projects and to get other students involved.

## Project Summary:

This short celebration serves as a review and wrap-up activity for the student group helping to implement a semester or school year of Zero Waste efforts. It is intended to reward the students and to advertise the program's success.

## Implementation:

Conduct this celebration after facilitating the Reporting Progress activity in Chapter 28. Students can work on drawing or coloring the charts as part of the celebration. (A final waste audit before the celebration is an alternative way for students to assess the status of the program.)

- Bring cookies or another treat to share with the student group that helped to promote and implement the program. If possible, aim for no packaging (homemade) or packaging that is recyclable or compostable.
- Facilitate a discussion with the students about their experience with promoting the program. Ask which parts they think worked well, and which parts were not as easy or successful. Create a list of ideas for improvements during the upcoming semester or school year.



**Assessment:**

Students’ level of comprehension and ownership of the project will be evident during the discussion about what did and didn’t work well from their perspective.

**Related Activities:**

Schoolwide Recycling Collection – Chapter 18

Backyard Composting at School – Chapter 24

Schoolwide Compost Collection – Chapter 25

Reporting Progress – Chapter 28

Conducting a Waste Audit – Chapter 30



**Extensions:**

- Ask the school administration to sign certificates for each student to recognize their contribution to the program.
- Ask that students be acknowledged in front of the entire school community, such as at an assembly, on social media, or in the school newsletter.
- Share the group’s improvement ideas for the upcoming semester or school year with the school community through announcements, social media, and/or the school newsletter.
- Create a suggestion box to allow other students in the school to contribute their ideas.