



## CELEBRATING ZWW AT SCHOOL!



Please find below some suggested activities and resources to help educate, energize and engage your students as they rally around ZWW at school, home and out in their communities.

**Please note:** These activities listed below are not directed to specific K-12 grades. Please adjust accordingly.



### **Litterless Lunches Contest:**

Create a competition (between classes/grades) to see who can produce the least amount of waste during ZWW.

**Litterati Scavenger Hunt:** (See ZWW Informational Video for Litterati info.) Turn this activity into a scavenger hunt! Put together a list of waste items that can be commonly found on your campus and reward the students who collect the most items off the list!

**Donut-eating contest:** See what it's like to be a bird or other sea animal trying to get food out of a plastic bag with no hands! Students try to eat donut holes out of a plastic baggie with their hands behind their backs

**Swedish fishing contest:** See what it's like to be an albatross trying to sort through an ocean of plastic trash (bottle caps, baggies, etc.) to find the fish. Put trash into a large bucket/bin and hide sweet treats (i.e., Swedish fish) in there (ideally individually wrapped packets so that students could eat them if they catch them) and have students use trash picker-uppers that mimic a bird's beak to grab them.

**Sorting contest:** students are given a variety of waste items to try to get in the right sorting buckets within a limited amount of time (i.e., landfill vs recycling vs compostable vs compost).

**Celebrate with ZWW Art:** Create big and small art using waste materials (from school and/or home), and celebrate with a school-wide art exhibit.

**Trashion Show:** Students model their original fashion on attire made out of recycled/reusable "trash"!

### **Create/Decorate Reusable Bags:**

Provide materials for your students to decorate reusable bags or better yet, make reusable bags out of old T-shirts! Bonus points for students who decorate their bags with "Go Green. Think Blue!" ideas.

**Tote-Your-Own-Trash Day:** Students carry their own trash bag



around with them for a day (or for the whole week) and gain insights into their own litter story. Make time for reflection.

**A "Do Without" Day:** Pick a day(s) to NOT use an item in class such as no "new" paper, no electric-powered technology, no electric lights (only day light). Students reactions?

**Home Waste Audits:** Students assess and then brainstorm ways to reduce waste at home.

**GO GREEN!** Recruit your principal or other teachers/administrators/coaches to help infuse excitement into the week and ask them to dye their hair GREEN for the day to show support for students' commitment to ZWW!

**ZWW Bulletin Board:** Create a centrally located ZWW bulletin board for the week with room for students to post their ZWW pledges and other ZWW related information/updates.



**Wake up to ZWW Morning Announcements:** Use the ZWW pre-recorded public service announcements (or create your own at school) and play/read them every morning over the intercom.

**Get the ZWW Word OUT:** Include student-written notes/letters/articles/editorials about ZWW in student newspapers/emails to parents. Flood the local newspaper with students' "Letters to the Editor"! Write to your elected officials! Students present to city council, school board, Rotary Club, etc. about why ZWW is important to them and to the ocean.

**"Turn Off, Turn Down, Unplug":** Create signage to either turn down, turn off or unplug the various electronics, thermostats, lights, etc. Organize a "no idling" campaign for parents who drive and pick up students at school.

**Zero Waste Week School Dance** that integrates various ZWW elements such as: recycled and re-used decorations, "under the sea"-themed music and face painting, compostable plates and utensils for the food, bulk drink dispensers versus single use plastic bottles, etc.

**Check out these websites for more ZWW related ideas and information...**

<http://marinedebris.noaa.gov/educate>

<http://marinedebris.noaa.gov/multimedia>

<http://www.climate.gov/>

<http://sanctuaries.noaa.gov/education/fun>

<http://www.coastal.ca.gov/publiced/directory/educate.html>

<http://water.epa.gov/learn/>

<http://cordellbank.noaa.gov/education/curriculumactivities.html>

<http://www.oneworldocean.com/>

<http://5gyres.org/>

<http://saveourshores.org/>

<http://www.surfrider.org/>

<http://www.greeneducationfoundation.org/>

[nationalgreenweeksub/curriculum-and-activities/activities-ngw/1195-top-10-earth-day-activities](http://nationalgreenweeksub/curriculum-and-activities/activities-ngw/1195-top-10-earth-day-activities)

<http://plasticpollutioncoalition.org/>

<http://storyoftuff.org/>

<http://thelastplasticstraw.org>

<http://www.stopwaste.org/>

[recycling/schools](http://recycling/schools)

