

## TEACHER GUIDE

# Trash Talk!

**TO:** Teachers

**FROM:** City of Santa Cruz Public Works Department  
809 Center Street, Room 201 • Santa Cruz, CA 95060  
831-420-5449 • [msimmons@cityofsantacruz.com](mailto:msimmons@cityofsantacruz.com)  
[www.cityofsantacruz.com/schoolrecycling](http://www.cityofsantacruz.com/schoolrecycling)

**DATE:** Winter 2013

In this edition of *Trash Talk!*, we highlight waste reduction and reuse. With the holidays around the corner, these are timely topics for your students! Waste reduction and reuse include selecting secondhand or reusable products.

Inside this Teacher Guide, we have provided ideas to “reuse” the newsletter for daily instruction, journal writing prompts for students, and an extension activity. For your convenience, you will find Teacher Keys as well.

Below, refer to this issue’s activities and the corresponding subject areas and skills addressed. We provide this information so that you can incorporate *Trash Talk!* into your daily curriculum.

<b>Activity</b>	<b>Subject Areas</b>	<b>Skills Addressed</b>
Literally?!	<i>Language Arts</i>	Distinguishing literal from non-literal language; Understanding figurative use of words in idioms; Using context to determine meaning
Battery Buyers	<i>Math</i>	Interpreting data displayed on a pictograph; Solving problems involving addition, subtraction, and multiplication; Multiplying with money in decimal notation; Making precise calculations and checking the validity of results in context
Dare to Compare	<i>Math</i>	Computing with whole numbers; Comparing numbers; Identifying factors of numbers; Identifying odd and even numbers; Identifying prime and composite numbers; Solving for unknown values; Replacing letters with their values; Using logical reasoning; Testing possible solutions
What’s Wrong?	<i>Science</i>	Defining terms; Exploring concepts related to populations and ecosystems; Understanding and comparing the roles of decomposers, producers, and consumers in an ecosystem
I Need It!	<i>Social Studies</i>	Distinguishing between wants and needs; Comparing costs and benefits in making spending decisions
Something’s Missing	<i>Social Studies</i> <i>Language Arts</i>	Understanding how both parties benefit from economic trade; Using knowledge of letters, sounds, syllables, and word formation to read and accurately complete a text; Using context to confirm and self-correct

# Reuse Ideas

## Math

- Write 24 in word form.
- Write the related multiplication fact for  $6 + 6 + 6$ .
- Use less than ( $<$ ) and greater than ( $>$ ) symbols to make these statements correct:  
 $13 \underline{\quad} 12$     $4 \times 5 \underline{\quad} 3 \times 8$     $10 \times 1.25 \underline{\quad} 6 \times 2$

## Language Arts

- Write a sentence that includes the terms “predator” and “prey.”
- Circle four proper nouns.
- Write these words in ABC (alphabetical) order:  
prey   predator   parasite   producer
- Add quotation marks where they are needed in these sentences:  
I carry a refillable water bottle to school, said Jonathan.  
Makayla wrote a poem titled The Green Teammates.  
Sofia asked, Can we hold our swap meet in the gym?

## Science

- In this food chain, which of the following is a producer?  
coyote   squirrel   corn
- Which organism adds nutrients to the soil as it eats?  
consumer   decomposer   producer
- Name one way that plants help people.

## Social Studies

- In addition to a President, what other officers might a class have?
- If the class officers make all of the decisions about parties and other class functions, which kind of democracy is operating?  
direct democracy   representative democracy

## Now Hear This!

“Public service announcements” (also called “public service ads” or PSAs) introduce and briefly describe a problem and then propose solutions. Show your students examples of PSAs at [www.adcouncil.org/Our-Work](http://www.adcouncil.org/Our-Work). The Ad Council is a non-profit organization that creates PSAs on a variety of issues, such as improving the quality of life for children, preventive health, education, community well-being, and strengthening families.

Make copies of the blackline master on the next page. Have students work in groups to create the script for a PSA. Provide each group with a topic, such as lunchroom food waste, playground litter, walking to school, recycling at school or at home, donating used items to charities, etc. A 30-second PSA is 60-80 words long.



## Journal Writing Prompts

Write a paragraph that includes the past tense of these verbs: *choose*, *donate*, *forget*, and *recycle*.

Using the letters in the word *parasite*, write as many words as you can. Try to come up with at least 10 words. The more, the better!

Have you ever received a hand-me-down?

Maybe it was a game, a toy, or a jacket. Write a paragraph about the item, the person who gave it to you, and how you have used it.

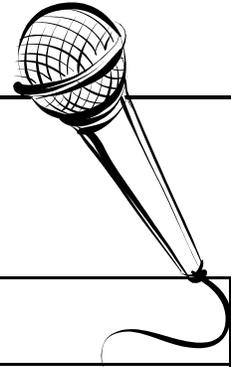


On a typical Thanksgiving Day, what does your family do? Do you travel? Who do you see? What do you eat? What types of activities do you do together or separately?

List three reasons to donate clothes that you have outgrown.

What was the last book you checked out at the library? Did you finish it? Why or why not? Do you have anything checked out now? If so, what?

# Now Hear This!



**Instructions:** Public service announcements (PSAs) introduce and briefly describe a problem and then propose solutions. As a group, research your topic and write a short script for a PSA. Remember, PSAs often tell a story and appeal to our emotions, so be creative.

<b>Topic:</b>	
<b>Describe the problem:</b>	
<b>List five facts about this issue (include the source for each fact):</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1.</li><li>2.</li><li>3.</li><li>4.</li><li>5.</li></ol>
<b>Propose a solution:</b>	
<b>Write a short script (60-80 words) that outlines the problem, gives facts to support your claims, and proposes a solution:</b>	

# Teacher Keys

## I Need It!

1. want
2. need
3. want
4. need
5. want
6. need

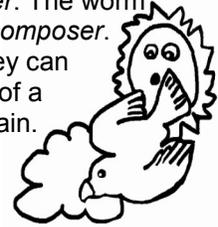


**Bonus:** Answers will vary, but may include: hand-me-down, garage sale, secondhand store, thrift shop, consignment store, or clothing ministry.

## What's Wrong?

1. food chain
3. ecosystem
4. prey
5. parasite
7. ecology
8. predator
9. consumer

**Bonus:** The hawk is a *predator*. The chipmunk is *prey*. The sunflower is a *producer*. The worm is a *decomposer*. Yes, they can be part of a food chain.



## Literally?!

1. "Pay an arm and a leg" – too expensive and not worth the price
2. "Finger in every pie" – involved in many activities
3. "Red tape" – rules that cause delays

## Dare to Compare

### S

1. 6, 7, 8
2. 6, 8
3. 6
4. Yes

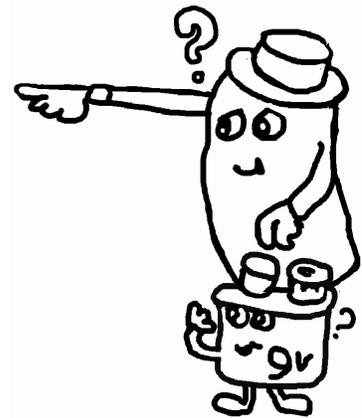
### B

1. A (Answers may vary.)
2. C (Answers may vary.)
3. 29
4. No — You can find the answer without using Clue E. (Answer may vary.)

## Battery Buyers

1. Jose
2. Layla
3. 32
4. 20
5. \$15.00
6. 12
7. 180

**Bonus:** Answers will vary.



## Something's Missing

When it is time for holiday shopping, my family heads to a secondhand store. Every year, we find lots of great gifts. Last year, we got a sweater for my grandma. We bought my grandpa a DVD of his favorite movie. I picked out books for my dad, who loves to read. I chose a game and wooden blocks for my brother and sister. For my mom, I picked out a necklace and bracelet.

