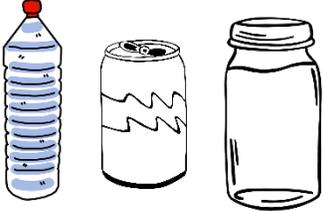
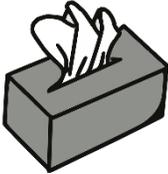
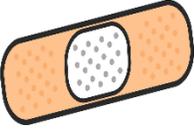
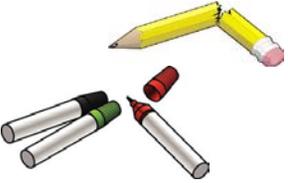
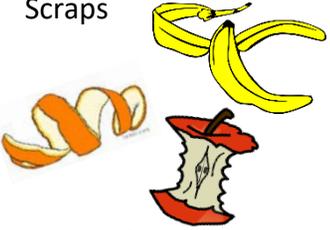
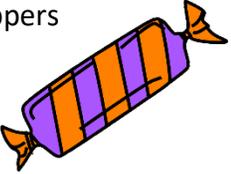


Recycle	Compost	Landfill

Name _____

Cut out all the waste items and sort them into the correct columns on page 1

<p>Clean Paper</p> 	<p>Empty Plastic, Can or Glass Bottle</p> 	<p>Used Tissue or Kleenex</p> 	<p>Band-Aid</p> 	<p>Greasy Pizza Box</p> 
<p>Clean Aluminum Foil</p> 	<p>Plastic Bag</p> 	<p>Broken Pencils, Dried Out Markers</p> 	<p>Juice Box or Pouch</p> 	<p>Chip Bag</p> 
<p>Food Scraps</p>  <p><i>This Photo</i></p>	<p>Candy Wrappers</p> 	<p>Plastic Utensils</p> 	<p>To Go Cups and Plastic Straws And Lids</p> 	<p>Used Napkins or Paper Towels</p> 
<p>Styrofoam Cup</p> 	<p>Leaves and Grass</p> 	<p>Empty Milk Carton</p> 	<p>Used Paper Food Tray</p> 	<p>Wipies and Cleaning Wipes</p> 

4R's Sorting Activity

Background: Not all waste goes in the same bin! In most homes, apartments, schools and businesses in the County of San Mateo, you will see three bins labeled Recycling, Compost and Landfill. They help us make less waste by sorting out resources that would otherwise go to the landfill!

Lesson: Here are some rules to help you consider before you place an item into a bin category:

- **Items placed in the recycle column** should be clean, empty and dry. For example, a used paper food tray may be made from paper, but when it becomes greasy and has food on it, it can no longer be recycled.
- **Items placed in the compost column** should be items that grew from a plant or tree. Hint: Napkins, paper towels, and cardboard come from trees but if they have food or grease stains they must go in the compost bin.
- **All items that don't follow the recycling or composting rules go in the landfill column.** This includes most items made of plastic. Items that have body fluids, germs or cleaning solutions should always go in the landfill.

Directions:

- 1) Cut out all the waste items from Page 2
- 2) Sort and paste the waste items into the correct categories on Page 1

Answer Key

Read under the answer key for more interesting facts about the items.

Recycle	Compost	Landfill
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Clean Paper• Aluminum Foil• Empty Plastic, Can, or Glass Bottle• Empty Milk Carton*	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Greasy Pizza Box**• Food Scraps• Used Napkins and Paper Towels• Leaves and Grass• Food Paper Tray	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Used Tissue or Kleenex• Band-Aid• Plastic Bag***• Broken Pencils, Dried Out Markers• Juice Boxes and Pouches****• Chip Bag• Candy Wrappers• Plastic Utensils• To Go Cups, Straws and Lids• Styrofoam Cup• Wipies and Cleaning Wipes

*If a milk carton is not empty when placed in the recycling bin, its contents will spill all over the rest of the recycling, possibly ruining them.

**Never put a greasy pizza box in the recycling bin, it will contaminate the clean paper.

***Plastic bags should never go into the recycling cart. They are sometimes accepted at the grocery stores. Better yet, reuse them over and over.

****Juice boxes do have cardboard, but they also have plastic and aluminum which can't be unglued to be recycled or composted.

The County of San Mateo Office of Sustainability Schools Program seeks to inspire students to take action to conserve resources in their schools and communities. Please visit our website for more information about our programs: <https://www.smcsustainability.org/waste-reduction/education-schools/>

For more information about Waste Reduction programs in the County, please reach out to us at: sustainability@smcgov.org