



King County Green Schools Program

# Success Story

Reduce • Reuse • Recycle • Rethink

## East Ridge Elementary School

**School district:** Northshore

**School location:** Woodinville

**Began participating in the Green Schools Program:**

September 2015

**Level One of the Green Schools Program:**

Achieved in May 2016

### Waste Reduction and Recycling (Level One)

- Sixth-grade Green Team students met regularly to promote waste reduction and recycling. Their efforts included assessing the school's recycling practices and creating paper reuse boxes for each classroom.
- The school started a lunchtime recycling program. The initial focus was on beverage containers, including milk cartons, aluminum cans, and plastic bottles.
- In March 2016, each classroom received information about how to pack a waste free lunch.
- Teachers limited paper handouts and encouraged students to use both side of the paper.
- As a result of these efforts, the school's recycling rate increased from 25% to 40%.



Green Team students played a sorting game led by a King County Green Team specialist



Green Team conducted a waste audit