



Highland Terrace Elementary School

School district: Shoreline

School location: Shoreline

Began participating in Green Schools Program: January 2020

Level One of the Green Schools Program: Achieved in June 2023

Student Green Team recognition: Received in June 2023

Waste Reduction and Recycling (Level One)

- Highland Terrace achieved a recycling rate of 50%.
- The school used durable trays and utensils in its lunchroom, and encouraged students to refill their durable water bottles in the lunchroom water fountain.
- A 20-member Green Team of third- to fifth-grade students led by Teresa Osborn, school counselor, joined the team after filling out applications. The team's goals were to reduce food waste at school and home, and to encourage families to plant a garden at home in April to celebrate Earth Day.
- During lunch, Green Team members led fun informational quizzes about food waste rates, the impacts of food waste, ways to reduce wasted food.
- The Green Team helped with lunchroom collection of recyclable and compostable materials which started in January 2023 with support from staff member Kristin Wilhite. Team members made announcements during lunch to educate fellow students about how to sort materials.
- From January-June 2023, over 50 bags of empty milk cartons and juice cartons were collected for recycling.
- The Green Schools Program provided recycling bins, leftover liquids bucket, organics bin for food scraps and other compostable materials, and stickers for bins to show what can be placed in recycling, organics, and garbage bins.
- Team members labeled recycling and garbage bins throughout the school, using stickers provided by the Green Schools Program.



King County Green Schools Program

Success Story

Reduce • Reuse • Recycle • Rethink

- The school newsletter included announcements about waste reduction and recycling.
- To reduce paper use, staff were encouraged to print double-sided, and students were encouraged to use both sides of paper. The majority of school newsletters and communications were online.
- Healthy school practices at Highland Terrace included PE classes with opportunities for exercise and education about the importance of exercise, an after-school running club, and purchase of low-odor markers.