

## Lunchtime Sorting Walking Assembly Script

### What is a “walking assembly?”

A walking assembly is a way to spread the word about your sorting project! Together as a team, decide who will go to each classroom to present the details about your Lunchtime Sorting Station.

### Directions

Print this script and distribute it to participants who will participate in the walking assembly. Visit each classroom and present the script to fellow students. We suggest bringing a few examples of trash and recycling materials as visual aids. You can also use this script as a part of morning announcements, a school-wide assembly, or as you see fit in your school community.

## Lunchtime Sorting Walking Assembly Script

Note: Some elements of this script can be omitted to fit the resources available to your team.

### Introduction

Hi! I'm \_\_\_\_\_ (*name*) and I'm part of the Grades of Green Team here at \_\_\_\_\_ (*school name*). Grades of Green is an environmental education organization that supports our school's green efforts. Our school is participating in their Launch Program to roll out the Lunchtime Sorting Toolkit to help our school decrease waste.

### The Facts

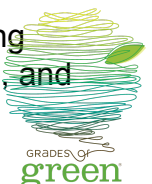
Did you know the average American produces 5 pounds of trash each day, or 1,825 pounds per year? We live in a society that creates a lot of waste; 90% of the stuff we purchase ends up in a landfill in 90 days or less. If we make less trash, we also reduce our use of energy, water, and even decrease our air emissions and toxins. Our school currently produces \_\_\_\_\_ (*number of bags*) bags of trash per day at lunchtime alone. We have set a goal to reduce that number to (number of bags) bags per day or less, which would divert over \_\_\_\_\_ (*number of bags*) bags of waste from going to the landfill each year. We are going to do this by introducing waste sorting stations in our lunch area and starting a waste sorting program on campus. a Lunchtime Sorting program by setting up a waste sorting station. We need your help to make this program successful.

### Recycling

For starters, we will be pairing each of the trash cans in the eating area with a recycle can. We will be asking all of you to put anything that is recyclable in that can. Here are some examples of things we can put in the recycle cans if they are basically clean and empty (*show examples*). All plastic bottles, clean plastic containers, glass, and metal cans can go into these recycling containers too.

### Sorting Waste

At lunchtime, we will have a waste sorting station set up at \_\_\_\_\_ (*location*). The sorting station allows us to separate our waste into recyclables, food scraps, liquid waste, landfill waste, and





tray stacking *(adjust to your sorting components and show photos of waste sorting station)*. Please stack your trays as the trays will take up less space, allowing the school to use less trash liners. Before putting items into the recycling bin, please dump any remaining liquid in the liquid bin. Food scraps such as veggies and fruits can be put into the compost bin. Remaining food scraps such as meat, bread, and cheese should be placed in the regular trash bin. Any remaining trash should be put in the trash bin as well. *(Hold up 5-10 examples of common trash and ask students what would be sorted where)*.

### Reducing

Whenever possible, it's always best to reduce the amount of waste we make in the first place. So, if you are able to bring any reusable items to school like reusable water bottles, that really helps our school decrease waste. We can also reduce by simply refusing to take more than we need. If you need a napkin or ketchup packet, only take what you will use- that way you are not creating extra waste.

### Closing

By taking the time to reduce what we use, reuse items when we can, sort our waste into recyclables and compost at lunchtime, and pick up litter, we are doing a lot to protect our environment. We will keep you updated on how our Lunchtime Sorting Program is going through

\_\_\_\_\_ *(insert method here, ex. morning announcement, newsletter, etc)*. Go \_\_\_\_\_ *(school mascot here)*!

