

YOU CAN CHANGE FRESNO



Activities Introduction

The goal of Beautify Fresno is to help ensure that everyone in Fresno lives in a beautiful community. This Litter Reduction Plan is an activity guide for teachers that gives students the opportunity to become environmental stewards, and witness the positive impact they can have on their environment.

Each activity introduces concepts and ways to communicate litter abatement facts beyond the classroom. Choose one (or more) activity from the options below.

Please give feedback using the [following survey](#) so Beautify Fresno can improve how to communicate with future students.

You Can Change Fresno: Adopt This Spot

Method: Students will clean-up and improve a public space.

Materials: A camera (phone), gloves, buckets, trash bags, other containers for waste (if needed), and safety vests.

Step 1

One week prior to the start of this activity, ask students to take pictures of their community. If possible, photograph several locations in your community. Some of the photographs should show litter and some should depict areas that have been beautified.

Step 2

Upload the students' photos to share with the class. Discuss with students which areas of the community have the most appealing appearance. Ask them which areas they would like to visit and why. Discuss which areas they would avoid and their reasons for doing so.

Step 3

Ask students what it means to litter. Don't comment on student responses. Simply keep a record of them on the whiteboard or digital projector. Discuss the following questions with students:

1. Would you feel bad about littering in an area where there is already litter? Why or why not?
2. Would you feel bad about someone littering on any of the locations in the photographs? Why or why not?
3. How would you feel about littering in a very clean area?
4. How would you feel about littering in a place of worship? Tombstones? A memorial statue?

Step 4

Introduce the broken window theory. This theory states that if a window is left unrepaired, then other forms of vandalism and crime will follow.

In other words, if litter is allowed to stay in neighborhoods, then it won't be long before more appears. Trash and litter become commonplace in such areas. People loiter in the areas and more serious criminals take advantage of the surroundings. Litter creates a downward spiral for our communities; reducing our quality of life and encouraging fear and anxiety.

Ask students to consider the theory. Do they agree? Discuss the community photographs. Do they support the broken window theory?

Step 5

Introduce the term beautification. Ask students to think of ways to beautify an area within or around the school. Stress that ideas should be practical.

Step 6

Work together to choose a project and location(s) in or near the school and tell the students that they will ADOPT THIS SPOT for one month. During that time, they will be responsible for the initial clean-up (and/or reporting it to the janitorial staff to take care of), daily examination of the area for signs of decay and any beautification projects.

Step 7

Take before and after photographs of the spot students have adopted.

| Assessment

Have students examine the results of their continued efforts. Are others littering less in the areas they adopted and cleaned up?

| Enrichment

Beyond cleaning and maintaining the location, ask students to consider ways to further beautify the area (i.e., plant flowers, create a mural, post public service posters, add benches, etc.).

Make a commitment to maintain this spot for the remainder of the school year. Make a bulletin board using the community photographs from the lesson.

| Online Awareness:

Post your before and after photos on Instagram and tag @BeautifyFresno

Make an Instagram Reel inspired by:
<https://spaces.hightail.com/receive/0J8ddxt6HP>

- Open with a student telling their audience the things in their life they can't control (e.g. curfew, gaming time, homework, etc.). End the video showing their audience what they can control using a visual (video or image) of a cleaned-up area or throwing away litter. Then, present a fact to share, if relevant (see fact sheet).

You Can Change Fresno: Cleanup Event

Method: Students will organize a one-time or recurring clean up event.

Materials: Gloves, buckets, trash bags, other containers for waste (if needed), and safety vests.

Step 1

Survey the site, noting the types and quantities (to the best of your ability) of waste materials on the site. Take photos to document.

Step 2

Build a community team and decide upon a date for the event. Solicit donations/assistance for materials from organizations/businesses.

Step 3

Obtain permission to enter the site. (See Appendix C for a sample permission form).

Step 4

Assess site for cleanup. This includes walking through the site with the owner, understanding equipment needed to clean the site, gaining understanding of availability of cell service at site, assessing whether roads will need to be closed, whether signs and safety detail are needed, where roll-off or other containers will be situated, etc.

Step 5

Obtain volunteers. Communicate expectations with them and all pertinent information, including what to wear for safety and comfort (brimmed hat, work gloves, work boots or heavy-soled shoes, long pants, sunblock, mosquito repellent, long-sleeved shirt, safety vest, sunglasses etc.).

Step 6

Ensure for proper recycling and disposal of items on site.

Step 7

Hold a cleanup event. Be sure to start with instructing volunteers about safety and their duties. Be sure everyone knows where to find supplies as well as cell phones, water, and first aid kits. Assign leaders. At the end of the event, be sure all volunteers are accounted for.

Step 8

Take care of post cleanup responsibilities – this includes estimating quantity and types of waste, ensuring its proper disposal, contact media to describe event, thank volunteers.

Assessment

Have students examine the before and after results of their event efforts.

Online Awareness:

Post your before and after photos on Instagram and tag @BeautifyFresno

Make an Instagram Reel inspired by:
<https://spaces.hightail.com/receive/740MfCYoHp>

- Open with a student telling their audience the things in their life they can't control (e.g. curfew, gaming time, homework, etc.).
- End the video showing their audience what they can control using a visual (video or image) of a cleaned-up area or throwing away litter. Then, present a fact to share, if relevant (see fact sheet).

You Can Change Fresno: 152 Piece Pickup

There was an estimated nearly 50 billion pieces of litter along U.S. roadways and waterways in 2020. For many, that is an unfathomable number. However, when accounting for the U.S. population, 50 billion pieces of litter equates to 152 pieces of litter for every U.S. resident.

While still a large number, 152 pieces of litter is something you can visualize. It provides a tangible goal for every person. If everyone, whether they littered or not, picked up 152 pieces of litter, we could clear our roadways and waterways of litter, and all be part of the solution to beautifying our world.

Method

Students should collect 152 pieces of litter.

Materials

Gloves and trash bags (provided in class).

Activity

Throughout the month, students should collect 152 pieces of litter. Students can decide on their own how they want to reach their goal, e.g. picking up trash every day on their walk home from school, getting together with a friend once a week to collect litter, etc.

Assessment

Have a class discussion about the students' experience of collecting 152 pieces of trash.

Online Awareness:

Post photos of your 152 pieces of litter on Instagram and tag @BeautifyFresno

Make an Instagram Reel inspired by:
<https://spaces.hightail.com/receive/do8AYX7N2r>

- Open with a student telling their audience the things in their life they can't control (e.g. curfew, gaming time, homework, etc.).
- End the video showing their audience what they can control using a visual (video or image) of a cleaned-up area or throwing away litter. Then, present a fact to share, if relevant (see fact sheet).



You Can Change Fresno: Bingo Game

Method: Students should play Beautify Fresno BINGO as a class.

Materials: BINGO cards and chips (provided in class).

Activity: Place all of the call-out words/phrases in a bucket, hat or bag and mix them up. The teacher should select a word/phrase without looking. Have students mark the square with a chip when they hear a word/phrase that appears on their card. Players shout "BINGO!" when they get a full line (vertical, horizontal or diagonal) or a full card.



BINGO LITTER PICKUP

Plastic Film	Metal	Food Waste	TV or E-Waste	Broken Glass	Beer Bottle
Office Paper	Clothing	Soda Bottle	Vehicle Debris	Soda Can	Ad Sign
Cardboard Box	Liquor Bottle			Mail	Straw
Fast Food Bags	Mini Bottle	Receipt	PPE Gloves	Glass Bottle	Beer Can
PPE Mask	Political Sign	Cigarette Butt	Tire / Tire Treads	Small Rug / Textiles	Book

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You Can Change Fresno: Recycling Relay Game

Method

Split the class into teams for a recycle relay race!

Materials

One recycling bin and one trash bin.

Recyclable items can include:

- Plastic cups
- Paper cups and plates
- Yogurt containers
- Plastic cutlery
- Milk cartons
- Soda cans
- Cereal boxes
- Cardboard
- Paper

Non-Recyclable items can include:

- Cardboard pizza boxes
- Plastic bags
- Styrofoam
- Bubble wrap
- Straws
- Bottle caps
- Foam egg cartons

Activity

Each team will have recyclable and non-recyclable items to sort. Students will take turns sprinting to bins to sort their items. The goal is to be the first team to correctly sort their items.

Assessment

After the race, have a discussion about how, when you have the time, it's easy to properly dispose of waste. Talk about the importance of encouraging proper waste disposal at home.



You Can Change Fresno: Beautify Your Classroom

Method

Plant flowers, then watch them grow and beautify the classroom!

Materials

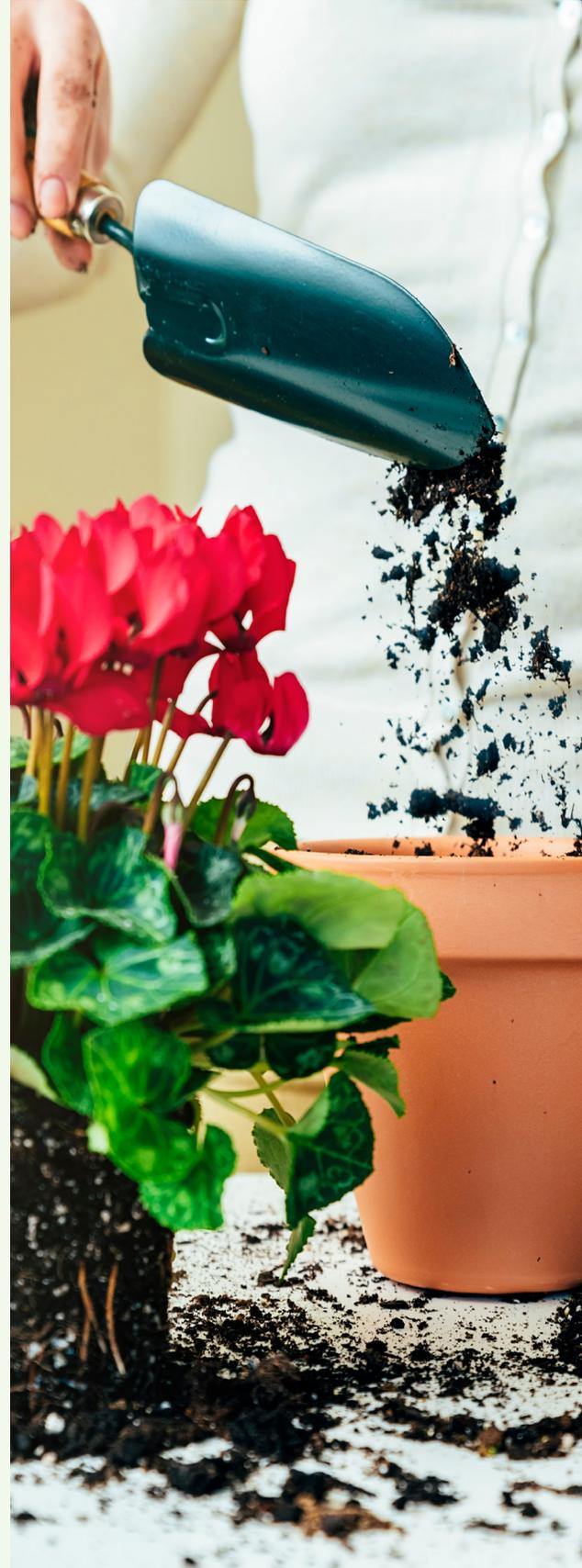
- One (1) biodegradable, plantable round fiber pot for each student
- A few seeds of easy-to-grow plants like marigolds or poppies for each student
- A bag of potting soil
- A watering can

Activity

Teach the students how to plant a seed. Water the plants a little every day and keep them in the sun so the students can watch them grow. Once they're ready, they can be taken home and planted.

Assessment

Have a discussion about how the plants beautified the classroom, and how at home, the plants will beautify their homes and be good for the bees and wildlife.



You Can Change Fresno: Design a Poster

Method

Design a Beautify Fresno Poster

Materials

- Posters
- Markers, crayons, colored pencils, paint

Activity

Students should design their own poster for Beautify Fresno. The poster can be a painting or drawing that should educate others on how they can beautify the community.

Assessment

Students should present their poster to the class and explain their design. They should talk about the most impactful things that they learned throughout the Beautify Fresno lessons and activities, and what they're going to do to make a positive impact moving forward.



Volunteer Registration Form

Name: _____
Organization: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ ZIP: _____
Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____
Email Address: _____
Cleanup Location: _____
Cleanup Date: _____

NOTICE: The undersigned, recognizing and assuming all risks of accident and injury, hereby agrees that the following sponsors and volunteers:

Will not be liable or legally responsible for any injury sustained by the participant, or for loss or damage to the property owned or in the possession of the participant during, or as a result of, participation in this cleanup project at the above location whether such personal injury or property damage is caused by the negligence of the sponsors or their respective employees, officers, agents or otherwise.

Parent/guardian if signatory is < 18 years of _____ Signature

Witness/Date

Thank you for volunteering!

Permission to Enter Form

I (Name) _____, being owner of a property situated at (Address or description of property location) _____ in (Municipality) _____ do hereby grant permission to (Group or Individual's name) _____ represented primarily by (Name of organizer) _____ and the volunteers recruited by this group and/or organizer for a cleanup on my property. By granting permission, I do, with intent to be legally bound, hereby release (Group's name) _____ and their volunteers from any liability and do not assume liability for actions incurred during the cleanup held on (Date) _____ with an alternate date on (Alternate date) _____

Signature of property owner

Witness/Date

Printed name of property owner

Witness/Date

Signature of group representative

Witness/Date

(OPTIONAL) Also, I do hereby grant this group and recruited volunteers to enter my property henceforth to help maintain this property as a refuse-free property and to remove any trash as may be deemed necessary by them.

Signature of property owner

Witness/Date

Printed name of property owner

Witness/Date

Signature of group representative

Witness/Date