



Recycling drink boxes and milk cartons at school

How to make effective signage, posters, and stickers



One of the best ways to ensure milk cartons and drink boxes are properly recycled is to create clear signage, posters, and labels to display strategically throughout your school.

Here are the steps to get you started:

1 Find out what items are recyclable at your school

The first step to making effective signage is to determine what you can and cannot recycle at your school. Ask your school's administration to confirm this list with your recycling service provider. In some cases, the service provider (which may be your local municipality or a private company) might have ready-to-use posters that they can send to your school.



2 Make labels for your bins

Clearly label your waste receptacles to communicate which bin is for recycling, garbage, and compost (if applicable). You can label bins with stickers, markers, or paint.



TIP!

Pairing your recycling and garbage bins after they are labelled greatly increases the likelihood that waste will be put in the right place.



Did you know ?

Every region in Canada has distinct recycling programs that accept different items. What is recyclable in Calgary, Alberta is different from what is recyclable in Charlottetown, PEI. To make things more complex, items that are recyclable at your home might not be recyclable at school, and vice-versa. This is why it's so important to do your research before you begin making recycling posters and establishing a recycling program at school.



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3 Make informative posters

This is your chance to get creative! Share which waste items are garbage and which are recyclable by creating colorful posters to display on the wall by your garbage and recycling bins. You can make posters using markers and crayons, the computer, or cleaned used items for a 3D poster. Check out the Region of Peel's [Garbage](#) and [Recycling](#) posters for great examples of how to clearly convey your message.



Tips for Success

- For greatest impact, be sure to include both text and images on your poster.
- Be as detailed as possible.

4 Create instructive signage: Get specific

There are several steps to properly recycle certain items, such as food and beverage cartons. Create signage to share these instructions with your school community to help ensure all items are correctly disposed of.

Recycling beverage cartons

There are three simple steps to properly recycle drink boxes and milk cartons at your school: **Drink, empty, recycle.**

Check out this sign from the Carton Council of Canada, which can be downloaded, printed, and placed in appropriate locations throughout your school. Click on the image to the right to download:



Start designing!

You can also create your own instructive sign by using these downloadable carton images. Click on the button to the right to download:



Skills Development and Curriculum Connections

Create recycling posters and signage as an EcoTeam activity or as a part of a curriculum-linked Language, Science, or Art lesson.