

# Recycling Facts

Researched by the sixth grade class

- \*Paper products take up 40% of all trash.
- \*The highest point in Ohio is a garbage dump.
- \*Only about 30% of paper and trash is recycled.
- \*17 trees, 380 gal. of oil, 3 cubic yards of landfill space, 4000 kilowatts of energy, and 7,000 gal. of water can be saved by recycling 1 ton of paper.
- \*Nearly 8 million tons of recyclables were handled last year, enough to fill the Empire State building more than 7 times.
- \*By recycling we saved enough energy to power 874,000 households.
- \*United States is the #1 carbon emissions producer in the world.
- \*2.5 million water bottles are thrown away every hour in the U.S.
- \*It takes 450-500 years for plastic to decompose in a landfill.
- \*It takes 200-250 years for metal to decompose in a landfill.
- \*It takes 100 years for tin to decompose in a landfill.
- \*It takes 200-250 years for aluminum to decompose in a landfill, but can be reused within 6 weeks if recycled.
- \*Glass and Styrofoam **never** decompose.
- \*We throw away 25 trillion Styrofoam cups which cannot be recycled.
- \*You don't have to wash your recycling-just rinse them out.
- \*The average person's garbage weighs 4-5 pounds each day.
- \*The average person's garbage weighs 2 pounds when they recycle.