

Winning Essays
Grades K-2

Martin Meraz
First Place K-2
Grade 2
Harder Elementary School

Why Should I Recycle?

It's important to recycle because you can stop global warming. My sister and I recycle cans of soda to help the environment. We squish the cans and put them into a recycling bin. In Hayward, you can recycle paper, cardboard, glass, metal and plastic. When you recycle, you take things that are old and make them into something new.

I read in a magazine about some kids in New York that were collecting and recycling old shoes. They collected lots of old shoes and they were sending their shoes to a factory where they cut them into tiny pieces and then they grind up the shoes into rubber strips. Then they mix it up with glue and they press it into long strips that they paint and put it on the ground to make old shoes into new basketball courts where kids play. I think that this is a great way to recycle.

Alexia Rosales
Second Place K-2
Grade 2
Harder Elementary School

Why Should I Recycle?

I think that it's important to recycle because we can help make it a better world. Recycling means putting paper, plastic bottles and cardboard into a recycling bin. Every week, a recycling truck comes by my house and takes the things that you put out to be recycled to a recycling factory. At the factory they make old stuff into new stuff. If you recycle, you can help the world be a cleaner place. You can also help us have cleaner air.

Kolby Alari
Third Place K-2
Grade 1
Southgate Elementary School

Why Should We Recycle?

Recycling is fun! Recycling makes less garbage. We can use things over again. Things can be made from things in the recycle bin. We can't make things from garbage. Earth is a better place with clean air and clean water. Everyone needs to help recycle!