

Zero Waste Ambassadors Program



knock out waste in Missoula

PLEASE JOIN US! You and your fifth grade class are invited to participate in ZWAP!, our Zero Waste Ambassadors Program to knock out waste in Missoula. This educational adventure is the newest initiative of the Home ReSource Education Program, which seeks to increase waste reduction awareness, knowledge, and skills, and to celebrate reuse. ZWAP! is designed to help young Missoulians begin to think more critically about materials – where they come from and where they go – and to empower them with the knowledge that their choices really do matter.



The Goal of ZWAP!

The goal of our Zero Waste Ambassadors Program is for students to take away three key messages:

1. **We have a CHOICE!** Waste isn't waste until it's wasted.
2. **There are a lot of ACTIONS to reduce waste!** Reduce, Reuse, Recycle + Refuse, Rethink, Request, etc..
3. **We can make a DIFFERENCE by reducing waste every day!** Choice + Action = Difference

The Outcomes of ZWAP!

Our Zero Waste Ambassadors Program aims to help students become:

1. **ENGAGED** in problem solving around waste
2. **EMPOWERED** with the skills and knowledge to be Zero Waste Ambassadors
3. **INSPIRED** to knock out waste in Missoula

ZWAP! supports the following **Fifth Grade Educational Standards:**

Code Number or Subject	Fifth Grade Educational Standard
Next Generation Science Standards	
5-PS1-3	Make observations and measurements to identify materials based on their properties
ESS3.C	Human Impacts on Earth Systems: Human activities in agriculture, industry, and everyday life have had major effects on the land, vegetation, streams, ocean, air, and even outer space. But individuals and communities are doing things to help protect Earth's resources and environments (5-ESS3-1)
Montana Common Core Standards	
Mathematics	Reason abstractly and quantitatively
Speaking and Listening	Engage effectively in a range of collaborative discussions (one-on-one, in groups, and teacher-led) with diverse partners on grade 5 topics and texts, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly

For additional information,
 please contact: Katie Anderson,
 Zero Waste Educator & Planner
kanderson@homeresource.org



1515 Wyoming Street
 Missoula, MT 59801
 (406) 541-8301
homeresource.org

The Structure of ZWAP!

We offer ZWAP! at no cost to teachers, schools, or students.

ZWAP! is implemented in **two parts**:

1. **A Home ReSource educator visits the class** and facilitates a lively, interactive guided discussion about the Materials Economy and the global impacts associated with it.
2. In the following weeks, **the class takes one field trip to Home ReSource** (Home ReSource will provide transportation) where students review the Materials Economy through an interactive game and engage in several hands-on learning activities.
3. **Bonus Activities!** We have developed several activities including a Trash Tracker waste audit, a Request activity, and a Redesign activity that we encourage your class to engage in during the time between the two sessions.



The Learning Objectives of ZWAP!

1. Increase understanding of waste and how to reduce it
2. Increase ability to evaluate and problem solve around real-world problems

The ZWAP! Theory of Change

As students become knowledgeable about waste, increase their understanding of how to reduce it, and feel empowered that individuals' choices and actions can make a big difference, they will share their knowledge with peers and adults, evaluate where waste happens in their lives, and choose to make changes to move toward a Zero Waste lifestyle. If this transformation takes place in a school district that is actively pursuing a Zero Waste goal, the likelihood of lasting behavior change will increase.

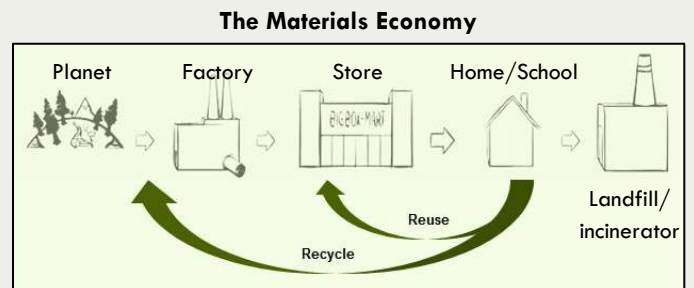


Image courtesy of The Story of Stuff Project

Zero Waste & MCPS

Thanks to the leadership of Superintendent Mark Thane, Missoula County Public Schools is working in partnership with Home ReSource to move the district toward the City of Missoula's Zero Waste goal to reduce waste by 90 percent by 2050. Through this partnership, Home ReSource will coordinate an effort to develop a plan for the district to get to Zero Waste with the involvement of administration, staff, and faculty, as well as assist with the implementation of a pilot Zero Waste classroom at Franklin Elementary School. With the need for education front and center, MCPS and Home ReSource are working together to bring ZWAP! to every fifth grade class in the school district. Thank you for being a part of this effort!



Home ReSource is a building materials reuse center in Missoula, MT committed to reducing waste and building a vibrant and sustainable local economy. We collect and sell reusable building materials, channel materials to those in need, and educate the community about reuse. As a triple-bottom-line nonprofit business, we bring environmental, social, and economic benefits to the community we serve through our retail store and Deconstruction Services as well as our Materials Giving, Work, Volunteer, and Education Programs. Every day, we keep tons of good materials out of the landfill and provide affordable building materials to the Western Montana community. Since opening in 2003, we've helped put approximately 10,000 tons of building materials back to work in Montana homes, offices, playgrounds, gardens, dog houses, and bird houses.