



4H Essay Contest

Grade 6

Sponsored by: **KEEP SEVIER BEAUTIFUL**

Your essay is due at your February 4H meeting. On your essay include your name, address, grade, school and the name of your teacher.

Winning essays will be announced on March 31, 2020.

KEEP AMERICA BEAUTIFUL AFFILIATE

INSTRUCTIONS

After reading “Recycle This Book- The Ugly Truth About Spit” and “Drinking Dog Water”, and the information from “Keep Sevier Beautiful”, write an informative essay in which you compare and contrast the authors’ views on recycling. Include information from the texts to write about the subject knowledgeably. Use details from all passages to help you write your essay. Also, remember to use correct grammar, capitalization, punctuation, and spelling when writing your essay.

Recycle This Book

100 Top Children’s Book Authors Tell You How They Recycle Edited by Dan Gutman

The Ugly Truth About Spit by Gennifer Choldenko

Here’s the problem with those generic water bottles...you buy four of them, you hand them out to the people in the backseat, somebody gets out of the car for a piano lesson, somebody gets in the car from tennis team, somebody switches seats so he can brain his sister because she is just so incredibly annoying – and pretty soon nobody knows whose bottle is whose. And then what happens? C’mon, fess up...you’ve guzzled your sister’s spit before, haven’t you? Yes. Well, me too. And I want to avoid it. Forever. So here’s what I did. I bought sturdy water bottles that I can put in the dishwasher and actually get totally and completely spit free. I wrote each person’s name on a bottle and handed it over. It’s been days, weeks even, since any spit commingling has happened in our car. Now, if I could only think of a good reason to get my guys to put the toilet seat down!

Drinking Dog Water by Peg Kehret

For fourteen years I had a terrier named Daisy. Daisy was a wonderful dog, but her stomach got upset easily. I was vigilant about what she ate and drank. When my husband and I traveled in an RV to visit schools and libraries, Daisy always came along. We prevented doggy tummy aches by taking water with us, so that the water she drank in campgrounds was the same as what she got at home. We filled gallon jugs with tap water, kept them in the fridge, and used that water for Daisy’s bowl whether we were at home or on the road.

One day I asked what everyone at a family gathering wanted to drink with dinner. My son-in-law replied, “I’ll have dog water.” From then on, any water in my fridge has been known

as dog water. I realized the dog water was as refreshing, tasty, and healthful as a newly opened bottle of water, so I started refilling my small water bottles along with Daisy's jugs.

Eight years ago, when I began doing this, I had a six-pack of bottled water on hand. I am still drinking from those same six bottles. Once in a while I stick them in the dishwasher, then fill them again from the tap. I refill my personal bottle about four times a day, which saves the purchase of more than one hundred bottles of water each month. Even if I recycled every bottle, it would take energy to manufacture, fill, and deliver them. 100 bottles a month x 12 months x 8 years – 9,600 bottles! That's 9,600 plastic bottles that I did not buy because I drink dog water, and reuse the bottles, every day.

Keep Sevier Beautiful by Karen Miller

Keep Sevier Beautiful motivates and educates Sevier County residents and guests to take greater responsibility for improving our community's environment. Keep Sevier Beautiful encourages residents and guests to recycle many items such as plastic bottles and plastic containers, metal cans, aluminum soda cans, and paper. Did you know these items can be placed in a Single Stream Recycle Bin?

Single Stream Recycling helps to make recycling easier on you and your family. When you recycle in one of the Single Stream Recycling bins around the county you do not sort individual items. The Single Stream Recycling bins will take plastic bottles and containers (numbers 1-7); aluminum, tin and steel cans; and newspapers, magazines, and junk mail – all in the same recycling bin! The main thing to remember is that you do not put in plastic bags or garbage bags, Styrofoam, shrink wrap or glass into the Single Stream Recycling bins.

Single Stream Recycling bins are even located at a couple of Sevier County schools! What a great way to start your fellow students and facility members to begin recycling at your school. Most schools start with paper, since schools use more paper than anyone else! Next, look at the use of plastic bottles at your school. Do you have vending machines that have plastic bottles that can be recycled? Does your school encourage you to bring water to school in a plastic bottle or reusable container? Is your name on your water bottle? Can you encourage others in your school to start a recycling club? Maybe the student council, beta or a classroom can begin collecting recyclables. It just takes one person to start a movement. Will you be that one?

Through educating and engaging residents and businesses on recycling, Keep Sevier Beautiful hopes to increase awareness and increase the recycling rates in Sevier County. Please recycle!