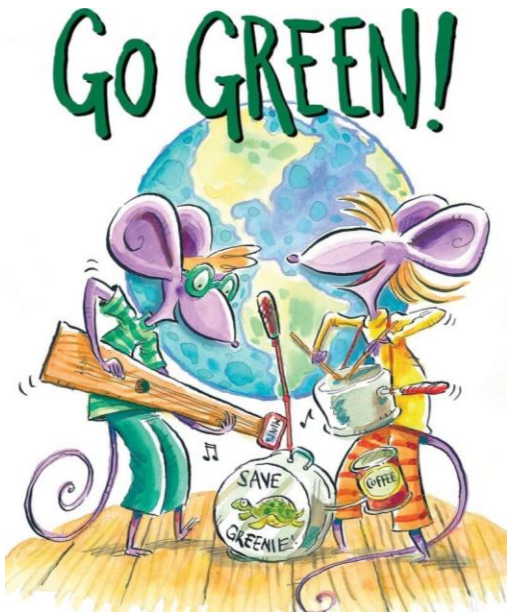


## Discussion Guide for Families



### Sydney & Simon: Go Green!

*Author:* Mia Wenjen

*Illustrator:* Robert Sae-Heng

**Themes:** Environment and Sustainability

**Book Brief:** Twin mice Sydney and Simon use STEAM skills to tackle a recycling problem after learning that trash harms sea creatures like a green sea turtle. By gathering data and raising awareness, they work to help their family, school, and neighborhood reduce waste and recycle better.

### READ ALOUD

#### Before Reading: Build Background

- Ask your child “What are some ways we can help the environment in our daily lives?”

#### While Reading: Make Connections

- Chapter 1: What does Sydney learn during the class trip to the Aquarium? How does Simon feel about Sydney’s sketch?
- Chapter 2: Why are Sydney and Simon tracking their family’s trash? What did they discover?
- Chapter 3: Simon says, “Creative problem solvers never give up!” Brainstorm ideas as a class to reduce trash at your school and compare these to Sydney and Simon’s ideas.
- Chapter 4: How is Ms. Fractalini’s class using science, math, and art to help the environment?
- Chapter 5: What does it mean to “go green”? How did Sydney and Simon turn trash into treasure?
- Chapter 6: How did their song inspire others to go green? Use examples from the story.

#### After Reading: Ask Questions

- How did Sydney and Simon use science, math, engineering, and art to raise awareness about going green?

### RELATED ACTIVITIES

#### If your child enjoyed this book, consider:

- Encourage them to talk about it during other conversations.
- Check out RIF’s [Sustainable Futures](#) center to learn more about sustainability with related books and resources.