

*Don't Throw That Away!:*  
*A Lift-the-Flap Book about Recycling and Reusing*  
**Discussion Guide**  
Grades Pre-K — 1

**Before Reading: to activate schema, build background knowledge, and set a purpose.**

- Discuss the idea of recycling and reusing common household items
- Before reading, have a class discussion to activate prior knowledge about recycling and repurposing common household items. Do you know what can be done with old, outgrown clothing? What other household items can be made into a toy, something new to use, or whatever your imagination creates? Make a list of student generated responses on an anchor chart or whiteboard.
- Frontload vocabulary: trash, recycle, reduce, reuse, collect, throw away, go green, environment, preserve, less

**During Reading: to engage students, check for understanding, and make connections.**

- Why do you think there are so many household items available for recycling and reusing?
- Are the illustrations & stories within the story helpful in understanding the concepts of recycling, reducing, and reusing?
- What are you learning about our environment and the need to recycle, reduce, and reuse?

**After Reading: to summarize, question, and reflect.**

Use a chart to have the students list in two columns

- common household items that can be repurposed into something new to use or enjoy in a new way
- ways we can learn to help our families & our communities recycle, reduce, and reuse

If your students enjoyed this book...

- Encourage them to continue to discuss the topic of recycling, reducing, and reusing.
- Let them explore more about the topic by reading other books about reducing food waste, such as [\*Zero Waste Kids: Hands-On Projects & Activities to Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle\*](#)