

February 2026

To: Parents & Caretakers of Parley's 3rd Graders

From: Recycle Utah Education Team

**Sustainability  
is everyone's  
business**



Hello!

**Recycle Utah recently visited your child's classroom to teach about plastics, where they come from, and how we can make smarter, more sustainable choices.** We wanted to share a quick summary of what students learned and offer a few ways to continue the conversation at home.

**During the lesson, students explored these big ideas:**

- Plastics are synthetic materials, invented in 1907, and made using oil and heat
- Plastic is popular because it's lightweight, strong, and cheap
- Plastics, like bags and utensils, create a lot of waste and never truly break down
- There are many ways to reduce plastic waste using the 8 R's: Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, Reclaim, Recharge, Repair, Refuse, and Rethink

**You can keep learning going at home by:**

- Using reusable bags, bottles, and containers
- Saying no to unnecessary single-use plastics
- Talking about whether items can be reused, repaired, or recycled
- Letting kids help choose more sustainable options at the store
- Recycling hard-to-recycle plastics like bags, bubble wrap, planter pots, single-use utensils, styrofoam blocks, and more at Recycle Utah

Thank you for supporting sustainability education and for helping your child think critically about our materials. Small changes at home can add up to a big difference for our planet.

Warmly,

Recycle Utah Education Team

Questions? Email [chelsea@recycleutah.org](mailto:chelsea@recycleutah.org).



**Recycle Utah** 1951 Woodbine Way / PO Box 682998

Park City, UT 84060. PH: 435.649.9698.

Visit us at [www.recycleutah.org](http://www.recycleutah.org)