



# CLUBS

## 3RS CHALLENGE Clubs Mission Brief

Canadians produce an average of 2kg of waste per person each day. Much of this goes to landfills, which contain all sorts of mixed waste. The good news is that each year we are getting better at recycling and composting, which minimizes our impact on the environment and wildlife.



### Your Mission:

## Host a Challenge to help your community reduce, reuse and recycle!

To successfully carry out this mission, your club will host a cleanup in your community to give animals and people the healthy home they deserve.

MISSION DIFFICULTY: ★★☆☆☆

MISSION LENGTH: Around 3 months (one meeting per week)

THE 3RS MISSION IS BROKEN INTO 5 STAGES:

Stage 1: Investigate & Brainstorm

Stage 2: Plan

Stage 3: Prepare

Stage 4: Reduce, Reuse, Recycle Challenge!

Stage 5: Reflect & Celebrate

You will find all the materials your club needs for each stage on the [Earth Rangers Clubs 3Rs Mission Page](#).



## 3Rs Challenge Mission

# STAGE 1: RESEARCH & BRAINSTORM

**STAGE OBJECTIVE:** In the **Investigate & Brainstorm stage**, your club will learn more about the 3Rs, the waste we produce and where it goes. They will then brainstorm a Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle Challenge.

**STAGE LENGTH:** Approximately 4 meetings (+ any extra time needed to carry out investigations)

**SUGGESTED BREAKDOWN OF MEETINGS:**

### MEETING 1: Carbon footprint

**KEY FOCUS:** Waste management and its impact on the environment

1. To begin, talk about the 3Rs and your community. Here are some questions to get you started:
  - *What do you know about the 3Rs?*
  - *Why are they important?*
  - *How is waste managed in our community?*
  - *What can we recycle? How?*
2. Have the club research what happens to different materials in your local area, such as:
  - *Organic waste (vegetable peelings, food waste), paper, glass, metal, hazardous waste (chemicals, cleaning products, paint), electrical waste (old computers, televisions, cellphones), clothing, medication, tires*

#### Suggestions to enrich this mission....

If it is possible, your club can organize an outing to your local landfill and recycling centre. Get ready to ask questions and take photos.

Invite a guest speaker from your municipality to talk to you. Remind club members to prepare some questions for them in advance.

The website of your local community or [Recyclepedia](#) web tool and app can help. Search for the type of material and where it goes. For example, does it go to a landfill, is it recyclable, is it organic, e-waste or hazardous (such as partly-used tins of paint), etc.?

You can also check out the resources in **Annex 1**.

3. Talk about the results of their research, for example:

- *What do you know about the 3Rs?*
- *Why are they important?*
- *How is waste managed in our community?*
- *What can we recycle? How?*

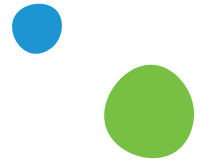
4. Explain that next time, you will begin investigating the impact of trash on your local area.

## MEETING 2:

# Trash in your community

**KEY FOCUS:** Creating tools to investigate waste type and production in your community

1. Explain to your club that to launch the best 3Rs Challenge possible, it is important to do some research to figure out what will have the greatest impact.
2. Have the group brainstorm the most appropriate way(s) to gather more information in your context, some possibilities include:
  - **An audit:** Carry out an audit in the place where your club meets.
  - **Interviews:** Interview several people of the place where your club meets, for example, custodians, users, young people, adults
  - **Surveys:** Create a survey to distribute, on paper or electronically, to get more information.
3. Make a plan of when and how to carry out your investigations.
4. As a club, prepare the materials your club needs. In Annex 1, you will find some examples your club can adapt and use for their investigations.



## MEETING 3: Investigations

### KEY FOCUS: Carrying out investigations

1. Before the club members undertake their investigations, review the plan, how to take notes, and any information they need to know such as handling garbage safely.
2. Have the club carry out their audit, interviews, surveys, or whatever else they have decided to do to learn more about trash in their community.

## MEETING 4: Results

**KEY FOCUS:** The results of the investigations

1. Have members discuss their investigations and what they discovered. The following questions can be used to prompt discussion:
  - *What different kinds of waste materials do we produce? Which ones are most common?*
  - *Are there recycling initiatives in place?*
  - *Where do these materials go after you put them in the garbage can or the recycle bin?*
  - *Which kinds of waste materials cause the most damage to the environment?*
  - *Are there some good examples of the 3Rs we can learn from?*
2. Discuss what could be focused on for a 3Rs Challenge, for example a challenge to encourage more people to recycle.
3. Explain that next time you will begin planning a 3Rs challenge.

Check out Multi-Material Stewardship Manitoba's (MMSM) interactive digital platform, [www.simplyrecycle.ca](http://www.simplyrecycle.ca), to see if there are tips your club can use.



# ANNEX 1

## Useful Resources and Further Reading

### **MULTI-MATERIAL STEWARDSHIP MANITOBA**

Whether you live in Manitoba or elsewhere, the MMSM website has many useful resources for Earth Rangers Clubs members and leaders!

<https://simplyrecycle.ca/>

MMSM's interactive tour "A Tale of Recycling" takes kids on an animated tour to see what happens to a soup can when it's put in the recycling bin:

<http://simplyrecycleschools.ca/>

MMSM also has a number of lesson plans that can be downloaded here:

<https://simplyrecycle.ca/school-programs/lesson-plans/>

### **RECYCLEPEDIA**

A great tool to search for recyclable materials and learn more about what to do with them:

<http://simplyrecycle.ca/about/recyclepedia/>

### **INVENTORY OF RECYCLING PROGRAMS IN CANADA**

To find out what recycling programs are offered across Canada, visit:

<https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/managing-reducing-waste/overview-extended-producer-responsibility/inventory-recycling-programs.html>



## ANNEX 2

### Examples for Interviews/Surveys/Audits

#### INTERVIEWS

Talk to different people where your club meets, for example: the custodian, teachers or program instructors, kids, and any others who regularly deal with recycling, waste, and compost. By asking them questions, they can help you figure out which kind of waste materials are most common, and which ones might be easiest to tackle!

##### Sample questions for a custodian:

1. Please tell us about the work you do to deal with recycling and waste in the building.
2. In your opinion, what is the biggest problem in this building/school related to waste? Why?
3. What do you think our Club could do to help solve this problem?
4. Would you be willing to help us? How?

##### Sample questions for kids:

1. Do you separate waste from recycling and compost?
2. In your opinion, what is the biggest waste problem we have in our school/building? Why?
3. What do you think our Club could do to help solve this problem?
4. Would you be willing to help us? How?

#### SURVEY

Distribute a survey with some simple questions to find out what others think about waste and the 3Rs. Here are some sample questions:

- (1) *Do you think we are doing a good job recycling? YES / NO / Don't know*
- (2) *Do you think kids care about reducing waste? YES / NO / Don't know*
- (3) *What could we be doing better?*

#### AUDIT

Carry out an audit in the place where your club meets to find out what kinds of waste are produced over a day or a week, and how much of each type. Make sure you wear gloves and proper personal protection equipment. On the next two pages you will find audit templates.



# AUDIT WORKSHEET VERSION A

What kinds of waste do we produce? Look at the contents of the bins in your meeting location to see what's there and how much of each type. Make sure you wear gloves when handling the different materials!

materials to be sorted	# items	location found			possible actions
		Garbage can	Recycle bin	Compost bin	
Paper					
Cardboard					
Juice Boxes					
Milk Cartons					
Drink Cans					
Glass Bottles					
Yogurt Cups					
Plastic					
Food Waste					
Newspaper					
Flyers & Magazines					





# AUDIT WORKSHEET: VERSION B

What kinds of waste do we produce? Look at the contents of the bins in your meeting location to see what's there and how much of each type. Make sure you wear gloves when handling the different materials!

materials	# items	weight of 1 sample (in grams)	total weight (# x weight)	rank by # of items	rank by total weight	location(s) found (e.g. garbage, recycle or compost bin)	possible actions
Office paper							
Cardboard							
Juice Boxes							
Drink Cans							
Plastic Water Bottles							
Glass Bottles							
Yogurt Cups							
Plastic Wrapping							
Apple Cores							
Sandwich Remains							
Other							
Newspaper							
Flyers & Magazines							



## STAGE 2: PLAN

**STAGE OBJECTIVE:** In the planning stage, club members will decide on everything that needs to be done and who will do it. The meeting suggestions below can assist you in guiding the group in its planning. The [Clubs Task Chart](#) can help keep track of decisions.

**STAGE LENGTH:** Approximately 3 meetings.

### MEETING 1: Project decisions

1. Begin by briefly discussing why is it important to make a plan for a project (for example, so we don't forget anything, to make sure things happen on time, etc.) Next, discuss what should be included in the plan.

For example:

- Details (who/when/where);
- What would make it a successful event or campaign;
- Materials;
- People who can help;
- Promotion;
- Calendar

2. Recap the project decisions and discuss event or campaign details:

- *Who: Who should we target? Everyone at school? Parents and kids or just kids? Why these people?*
- *When: What would be the best time of year? Day? How long should it last? One day or more? Select a date and time.*
- *Where: At the club's meeting location? In another location? Why would this be the best location?*

Club members can use [Clubs Project Outline](#) to keep track of these decisions. This Project Outline can be personalized for your clubs needs and project.

3. Give the event or campaign a name:

- In small groups, members brainstorm and suggest a name.
- Once all the names have been shared, every club member votes on their favourite name, but can't vote for the suggestion of their group.

Explain to the club members that you are going to continue making your plan next time.

## MEETING 2: Promotion, Materials & Success

1. To begin, consider the materials and help that is needed to carry out the mission:

- *What do we need to carry out this project?*
- *Do we need to build something?*
- *Do we need paper/markers/etc.?*
- *Who do we need to help us with this project?*
- *Who do we need to ask for permission to carry out this event or campaign?*
- *Do we need to ask to reserve something?*

2. Next, discuss promoting your event or campaign:

- *How can we tell people about this project?*
- *Where can we tell people about this project?*
- *Who should we tell about this project?*
- *What materials do we need?*
- *When should we put up posters/make announcements?*

3. Finally, talk about measuring success:

- *How will we know if our project is a success?*
- *What do we need to observe during the event or campaign?*
- *What details do we need to keep track of? (number of people participating, etc.)*

### Ideas for advertising:

Local newspaper  
Community center or school website  
Social media  
Flyers in the community center or school  
Flyers in local businesses  
School Morning announcements  
Emails to parents

"Have club members finish filling out the Earth Rangers Clubs Project Outline. Explain that next time, you are going to make a task calendar.

If there is time left after discussing success, materials and promotion, your club can begin setting up the calendar.

## MEETING 3: Calendar

1. As a club, make decisions about who will be responsible for what. The [Clubs Task Chart](#) can be used to keep track of decisions. It can be adapted to the needs of your group and project.

2. Looking at the plan, have the club members decide what will be done at the next few meetings. Help them determine what they need to have on hand to carry out their tasks (art materials, computers for research, etc.).



# PROJECT OUTLINE

PROJECT NAME:

PROJECT OBJECTIVE:

**who are you targeting?**

**when is the event or campaign taking place?**

**date(s):**

**time(s):**

**where is the event or campaign taking place?**

**how will your club know if your event or campaign is a success?**

**what does your club need to carry out this project?**

**who can help your club?**

**what is your club's promotion plan?**



# CLUBS TASK CHART

PROJECT NAME:

WHEN:

WHERE:

	task	due date	names	done
materials	Get cardboard to make boxes	May 5th	Sarah & Ahmed	

	task	due date	names	done
people to help	Contact principal	May 12th	Seo-joon	

	task	due date	names	done
promotion	Make posters	May 26th	Marc, Wei, Lara	

	task	due date	names	done



## STAGE 3: PREPARE

**STAGE OBJECTIVE:** In the **preparation stage**, club members carry out the preparation using the **Clubs Task Chart** completed in Stage 2.

**STAGE LENGTH:** The number of meetings required for this stage depends on the type of event or campaign and the deadlines.



## STAGE 4: EVENT OR CAMPAIGN

In the last meeting before the mission event, have the club fill out the [Clubs Event or Campaign Plan](#) to decide on what needs to be done before, after, and during the event or campaign and who will be doing it. Make sure that everyone is clear on what their role is.

During the event, remind club members to make observations and take photos for the post-event or post-campaign debrief.



	task	names
set up	Set up tables and chairs	Sarah & Ahmed

	task	names
during	Welcome people as they arrive	Ahmed, Wei and Marc

	task	names
after	Put away tables and chairs	Lara and Sarah
	Take down posters	Kehinde

	task	names



## STAGE 5: REFLECT & CELEBRATE

The post-project stage is a key part of all Earth Rangers Clubs missions. It allows members to take a step back, reflect on their experience and develop an awareness of the skills needed to carry out projects to help protect the environment.

It is important to conclude the mission by celebrating the club's success. Recognizing the positive impact of their collective work is very empowering. It gives club members the opportunity to see that they can contribute to environmental action by making a difference in their community.

**STAGE OBJECTIVE:** In the **Reflect & Celebrate** stage, club members will analyse the impact of their project, share the results with the community, reflect on the project planning process and celebrate.

**STAGE LENGTH:** Approximately 4 meetings + time to share results

Once your club has finished the Reflect and Celebrate stage, complete the [Mission Completed Form](#) on the [Earth Rangers Clubs Website](#) to receive your club's completion certificate.

Below is suggested plan for meetings of this stage:

### MEETING 1: Event or Campaign Debrief

**KEY FOCUS:** The results of the event or campaign

1. Discuss the results of the event or campaign. The following questions can get the conversation started:
  - *How many people participated?*
  - *Did we accomplish what we wanted to accomplish?*
  - *Are the results what you thought they would be?*
  - *What is surprising?*
  - *How can we share the positive benefits of this event or campaign with the wider community?*
2. As a club, decide on the best way(s) to share the positive benefits and to encourage people to continue adopting sustainable habits.
3. Begin to prepare your decided means of sharing.

#### A few ideas for sharing:

Creating a video about the project

Writing a blurb for a local newsletter  
or social media site

Making a poster to display in the  
area where the event or  
campaign took place

## MEETING 2: Sharing with the community

**KEY FOCUS:** Sharing the positive benefits of the event or campaign

1. Finish preparing your means of sharing
2. Make it public and share your club's experience and insight with the wider community

## MEETING 3: Project Debrief

**KEY FOCUS:** What event could be held to encourage people to recycle batteries?

1. As a club, take time to analyze what went well and what could have been done differently in your project planning and execution. Some good starter questions are:
  - *Did anyone see anything you would change if we did this again?*
  - *What was something you think worked really well?*
  - *What were some problems we came across that we hadn't thought of before?*
  - *Who saw something that made them feel like this was successful?*

The [Earth Rangers Clubs Debrief Journal](#) can help you keep a written record of the mission experience.

2. Fill out and submit the [Mission Completed Form](#) on the [Earth Rangers Clubs Website](#).
3. Decide how you will celebrate your success at your next meeting.

Let club members talk and (respectfully) disagree with one another, but make sure each member has the ability to share if they choose.

To help guide the conversation, it can be helpful to walk through the event or campaign in chronological order.

## MEETING 3: Project Debrief

**KEY FOCUS:** Celebrating a job well done!

1. Enjoy your celebrating your success!
2. Wrap up your celebration by selecting your club's next mission.

Pizza party

Personalizing desks or cubbies with their favourite sustainable swap coloured in picture

Picture of the club posted in main hall and announcement recognition

Eco-craft day where they can make take home sustainable things (seed bombs with native plants, pollinator homes, egg carton seedlings, bird feeders made out of plastic bottles, etc.)

Eco-friendly movie and pajama party day



# CLUBS DEBRIEF JOURNAL

what went well in each stage?

brainstorming:

planning:

preparing:

the event or campaign:

what could we do better next time in each stage? how?

brainstorming:

planning:

preparing:

the event or campaign:

**what did we learn?**