

SWAP SUPERSTARS EVENT

Your Mission: Host a swap event to promote the idea of reusing and exchanging items instead of buying new ones

1. Begin by asking students to look at the items in their pencil cases or the tags of their shirts or sweaters to see where they were made. Prompt reflection through questions such as:

- *How did these items get from there to here?*
- *Why might this be a problem?*

Continue the discussion:

- *What do you think makes people buy new things? (For example, personal taste, advertising, social pressure, etc.)*
- *Buying brand new is not always best. Do you agree with this?*
- *How can we help encourage people not to buy new things they don't need?*

Discuss the 3Rs and focus on reuse. Talk about how every time something is thrown away, all of the energy that went into producing , packaging and transporting it is also thrown away. That is why reusing by trading and sharing products, such as Halloween costumes, sports equipment, toys, books and clothes we don't need anymore is a great way to reduce our impact on the environment.

2. Explain that you are going to host a Swap Superstars Event where people can exchange items they no longer want or need with each other. Decide which seasonally-appropriate items your event will focus on.
3. Establish a collection period and set up a location for people to drop off their items. For each item that's brought in, the person will receive a **ticket**. These tickets can be used at the event to shop for items. Advertise for your event, using our simple templates (**sample poster, sample announcements, notes home to parents and guardians**) or make your own.
4. Host the event and make sure to get lots of photos! Keep track of how many swaps are made.

5. Following the event, debrief with the class:

- How many people participated?
- Did we accomplish what we wanted to accomplish?
- Are the results what you thought they would be?
- How can we share the results of this event?

Together, decide how to share the positive benefits and to encourage people to continue adopting sustainable habits. Some suggestions:

- Creating a video about the project
- Writing a blurb for the school newsletter or social media site
- Making a poster to display in the school lobby

SWAP SUPERSTARS TOOLKIT

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Students can pair up to practice the announcements below or they can create their own. Combining daily announcements with posters and letters home will make sure everyone knows about your Swap!

- 1.** You can do your part to fight climate change by reducing your carbon footprint. Learn more about how to help the planet—and recycle a **[ITEM]** or two! Join us on **[DATE at LOCATION]** for the Swap Superstars Event. Don't forget to bring your gently used **[ITEM]** to **[LOCATION]** by **[DATE]**. You'll get one ticket per **[ITEM]** you bring in. You can then use those tickets to get new **[ITEM]** at the Swap!
- 2.** The **[ITEM]** Swap is coming up soon! Bring your used books to **[LOCATION]** by **[DATE]** and you'll get one ticket per **[ITEM]**, which you can use to 'buy' a new-to-you **[ITEM]** at the Swap on **[DATE at LOCATION]**! You never know what kind of treasure you'll find at the Swap!
- 3.** This is the last call for any book drop-offs for the **[ITEM]** Swap. If you've got some gently loved **[ITEM]** you'd like to donate, please bring them to **[LOCATION]** by tomorrow at the latest. The Swap is on **[DATE]**!
- 4.** The Swap is coming up REALLY soon and we can't wait! Drop off your gently used **[ITEM]** at **[LOCATION]** by **[DATE]** and get one ticket per donation to be spent at the Swap on **[DATE at LOCATION]**. Remember: it's always better to swap something you already have than to buy something new. Buying new means using energy to make, package, and transport those items and that increases your carbon footprint. Help to keep your footprint small by exchanging used items or buying second-hand!
- 5.** Reusing is SUPER important too. If you've got an item that you no longer need, try fixing it up or donating it instead of throwing it out. Speaking of donations, the Swap Superstars event is coming up on **[DATE]**, and we want your gently used books. Be sure to drop off your old **[ITEMS]** at **[LOCATION]** and get one ticket per **[ITEM]** to spend on new-to-you **[ITEMS]**!



A 6x3 grid of 18 identical 'SWAP TICKET' templates. Each ticket is a white rectangle with a brown border and a wavy bottom edge. It features a brown circular arrow icon on the left, the text 'SWAP TICKET' in bold brown letters, and the text 'This ticket is good for one swap' below it. A vertical brown line on the left side of each ticket contains the word 'ADMISSION' written vertically in brown capital letters.

LETTER FOR PARENTS AND GUARDIANS

dear parent/guardian,

Our class at has been learning all about our environmental impact. We've discovered that swapping items is better for the environment than buying new. And that's why we are so excited to tell you about our Swap Superstars event!

Please look through your closets and cupboards for any gently used item that your family would like to donate. Bring them to location at date and you'll get a ticket for each donation. You can then use those same tickets to buy 'new-to-you' items at the Swap Superstars event.

The Swap Superstars Event will take place on date at location. We request that all gently used item please be donated by date.

Any items that remain after the Swap will be donated to a local charity.

Thank you so much for your support!

[Class name]



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