Extension Activities

Waste Deep can be a springboard for conversations, advocacy, and action on waste-related topics beyond this class period and beyond the school walls.

- Students can generate their own card to add to the set, based upon independent research or their life experiences and observations.
- Take a field trip to one of these facilities to learn more about NYC waste:
  - Sims Metal Management (Sunset Park, Brooklyn)
  - Pratt Industries Paper Mill (Staten Island)
  - Freshkills Park (Staten Island)
  - Newtown Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant (Greenpoint, Brooklyn)
  - Sure We Can (Bushwick, Brooklyn)
  - Lower East Side Ecology Center (East Village, Manhattan)
  - A waste transfer station in your neighborhood
  - A community garden or urban farm in your neighborhood with a compost system

Additional Resources

Articles and Websites

- Waste Journeys (Open House NY)
- Is It Possible for New York City to Have Zero Waste?
- Freshkills: Landfill-to-Park Timeline
- 5 Parts of NYC Built on Garbage
- More Than Half of New Yorker’s Recyclables Go in the Trash
- Life Near a Landfill: The Towns and People Who End up with NYC’s Trash
- What Could Disappear?
- Environmental Justice Atlas

Videos

- Sims Recycling Profile
- Our Deep-Sea Garbage Dump
- Where Does New York City’s Trash Go?
- The Junk Food Truck
Lesson Plans

● Environmental Justice Lessons (Teaching Tolerance)
  ○ Middle School
  ○ High School
  ○ Progressive City Planners

● Buy, Use, Toss? A Closer Look at the Things We Buy (Facing the Future)

● Climate Choices (NAEE)

● Lesson from The Learning Network (The New York Times)
  ○ Do You Ever Feel Guilty about What, or How Much, You Throw Away?
  ○ How Do You Try to Reduce Your Impact on the Environment?
  ○ Plastic Pleas
  ○ Talking Trash About the Oceans
  ○ Floating Flotsam: Studying the Causes and Effects of the Pacific Garbage Patch
  ○ Bottled Water or Tap: How Much Does Your Choice Matter?
  ○ Reduce, Reuse, Recycle

● STEM Gowanus Urban Ecology Curriculum (Gowanus Canal Conservancy)

For more information about school recycling, visit:

● Recycling Champions, GrowNYC
● Office of Sustainability, Division of School Facilities, DOE
● Schools Division, Bureau of Recycling and Sustainability, NYC Department of Sanitation