



Get Caught Green-Handed

Campus Race to Zero Waste Activity

Effort & Resources



Easy. (Can be done with free time and little advance planning).



Moderate (\$100 for reward gifts).

Objective & Overview

Use this activity to encourage reuse and recycling by rewarding students caught “green-handed.” A team of spotters will watch and recognize people “caught” in the act of using a reusable water bottle, bag, or recycling, etc. This is a great way for an R.A. to connect with students in a dorm!

Step 1: Pick a Time, Place, and Strategy

This activity can be conducted anywhere on campus. A green team or sustainability club could station itself in a school cafeteria or at a sports game/other organized event, or an R.A. could go door-to-door in a dorm and reward people with recyclables in their bins.

Step 2: Plan a Prize

Decide how you will reward your reusers and recyclers. Consider taking photos for a “Green Heroes” bulletin board or Facebook album. You may also want to give out low-cost reward gifts, such as temporary tattoos. Other ways to recognize people is by naming them in a school-wide email or campus newspaper, or entering each “hero” to win a larger, eco-friendly prize (e.g. reusable mug or water bottle or t-shirt).

Another approach to this activity is to give out CR2ZW stickers when tabling or catching people “green-handed,” and tell students that they can win a bigger prize (i.e. gift certificate to a local pizza place) if they are spotted with the buttons around campus!

Step 3: Catch Recyclers!

Outfit your team in green team or club t-shirts and charge them with identifying and rewarding students who recycle. Assign teams to walk around campus looking for recyclers, or have a team pack their bags with small gifts and catch recyclers as they go about their normal routines.

