Keep Columbus Beautiful (KCB) offers presentations, activities, partnerships, and teacher workshops that can be used in a classroom setting or with a group.

# Youth-The Key to End Littering

KCB is reaching youth through schools, libraries, summer camps and youth–focused organizations. Our programs offer both learning and "service" objectives.

While cleanups are a major factor in improving the health and visual appearance of a community, changing behavior is the true path to ending littering in Columbus.

Beginning with our youth TODAY will ensure tomorrow's generations understand the hazards of litter and develop a socially responsible attitude regarding the community and the environment.



# Litter Learning K-12 Elementary

KCB has developed a curriculumbased "Three Words About Litter...PICK IT UP!! Litter Activity Guide" meeting approved standards. The guide is filled with lessons and activities for grades K-6 that can be incorporated into varied subject matters. The Litter



Activity Guide is currently available online for all K-6 Columbus City School instructors.

## School Community Service Learning Day

- Students clean-up litter on the school grounds and surrounding neighborhood
- Each grade "adopts" an area to clean-up
- KCB provides the trash bags, gloves, safety vests, and litter grabbers
- The day starts with a "litter pep rally"
- Students are chaperoned by teachers and parents
- While picking up litter students are asked to identify litter sources and solutions
- The clean-up is followed by a "litter audit" to identify what is being littered
- Students are asked to take the "PICK IT UP!!" litter pledge

# Litter Literacy

The Wartville Wizard, by Don Madden (Preschool to Grade 4) is a humorous children's book about people who litter in a community.



Retired teachers and other professional groups are trained to offer the CD Rom animated version or read the book aloud to 3rd grade reading classes and teach a lesson using KCB activity sheets and litter promotional items as the teaching tools. This is also used in city Recreation Center Summer Camps and the Library's Summer Reading Program.

#### Middle School

#### **Design Challenge**

A Teacher Workshop for middle school instructors is a process of developing critical thinking that will design a solution to a challenging real world/community issue. In this case the CHALLENGE is to DESIGN a solution around the problem of "litter in city alleys." Instructors lead pupils through a research process that includes the study of key stakeholders who contribute to litter/solid waste spillage in the alleys. Stakeholders include: Rental Landlords, Home Owners and the City of Columbus, Division of Refuse. The end result is a better understanding by students of the automated waste management system utilized throughout the city and the influence of stakeholder behavior on the waste removal process.

#### Middle School (6-8) The Trouble With Litter

- Keep Columbus Beautiful's interactive presentation that raises middle school students awareness about litter as an issue
- Lesson shares litter data and teaches the who, what, why, and where of littering
- The presentation explains the "Broken Window Theory" and the impact of litter on neighborhoods and the environment.
- Introduced to Three Words
  About Litter...Pick It Up!!,
  the presentation reinforces
  students social responsibility for the care of
  our neighborhoods

## Litter-Free School Zones

Is a 2 year commitment by Columbus City High Schools to build pride while keeping their school, campus and surrounding neighborhood streets litter-free. An official city sign is put into place in the right of way to signify the



school is a Litter–Free Zone partner. Gloves, litter grabbers, vests, trash containers and promotional yard signs and buttons are provided through KCB.

## Schools to Neighborhoods

KCB is working to connect schools to neighborhoods for service experience and credit. Youth engagement builds pride and awareness of how much work it is to keep a neighborhood clean and beautiful.

#### **Adult Education**

#### **Litter Prevention**

- Presentation for high school, college, and adult audiences
- Uses data from Keep America Beautiful's national study on litter and littering behavior
- Describes our litter problem and its consequences for communities and the environment
- Designed to reinforce individual responsibility for the care of our communities
- Explains how the services offered by KCB are building better neighborhoods

Students conduct a litter audit







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