

November 24, 2015

The Honorable Nikki R. Haley  
Office of the Governor  
1205 Pendleton Street  
Columbia, South Carolina 29201

Dear Governor Haley,

My name is GiGi Martin, and I am a member of the Goucher Elementary School's Robotics Team in Gaffney, SC. We call our team the Legorillas. Our team decided to make a flood tub for our First Lego League Trash Trek. Our challenge was to identify a problem with the way trash is handled in our homes and school. We started our research about butter tubs, but it expanded to include other kinds of tubs.

We decided to make flood tubs out of the 5 gallon pickle buckets that our cafeteria gets each month. We filled the tub with cleaning supplies so people could clean their homes after the flood in Columbia and other areas in our state. We think this would be a good thing for South Carolina students to do if we ever have another flood.

We decided to make this flood tub because hundreds of homes were flooded in Columbia. We made the flood tub out of cleaning supplies to help these people. I hope that you will send this to all of the schools in our state so they can make a flood tub for homes that were flooded.

Respectful,



GiGi Martin  
5<sup>th</sup> Grade Robotics Team Member  
Goucher Elementary School



## Ways to Reduce, Reuse, or Recycle Plastic Containers

- The best way to reduce plastic containers in landfills is to reuse and recycle.
- You can reuse by using yogurt containers as art containers.
- We can recycle more things than water bottles such as butter containers, ice cream tubs, and cool whip tubs.



## Goucher Elementary School

### The 2015 First Lego League

#### Robotics Team

Keegan Blackwell

Aiden Coffey

Lucera Gante-Espinoza

Brice Griffin

Jacob Hammitt

Carley Lockwood

Gigi Martin

Josiah Martin (Alternate-Jameson Duncan)

Valerie Waltman

Timberley Wyatt

Coaches: Cynthia Tubb

Becky McCraw



Mentors: Tanya Roberts

Kayla Rochester



## The Goucher Elementary

### First Lego League

#### Legorilla Trash Trek



#### Our Challenge:

In the TRASH TREK Project, our team:

- Identified a problem with the way plastic tubs are disposed of in our homes and school.
- Designed a solution to the problem.
- Shared our problem and solution with others.

*"The most important thing I've learned from being a member of the FLL is that what we discover is more important than what we win."*

*-Brice Griffin (FLL Team Member)*

## How to Make a Flood Tub

- 1-5 gallon pickle tub from your cafeteria
  - 1-flashlight with batteries
  - 1 pack of Filter masks
  - 1 pack of waterproof gloves
  - 2 packs of wash rags
  - Air freshener
  - Trash bags
  - Glass Cleaner
  - Bleach Cleaner
  - Disinfectant Wipes
  - Spic and Span Cleaner
  - Liquid Hand Soap
  - Dawn Dishwashing Liquid
- (All items packaged in plastic containers are # 1 and #2 plastics and can be recycled. We do not recommend reuse of these items



Other solutions to the tubs in our school and home

- Use them for drums.
- Use them to store your Legos.
- Store school supplies

YOU CAN ALWAYS RECYCLE IT!

### Sources of Information

#### Print Resources

- Ballard, Carol. *Exploring Natural and Man-Made Materials*. New York: Rosen Publishing. 2008. Print.
- Biesenberger, Joseph and Pall Kelleher. "Plastics." *The World Book Encyclopedia*. Chicago, IL. 2007. 554-561. Print.
- Guillain, Charlotte. *Reusing and Recycling*. Chicago: Heinemann Library, 2008. Print.
- Mackenzie, Anne. *Let's Recycle!* Mankato: Capstone. 2007. Print.
- Nelson, Sara. *Let's Reuse!* Mankato: Capstone. 2007. Print.

#### Other Print Resources: Brochure

*Cherokee County Recycles!* Gaffney: Cherokee County Recycling. 2015. Print.

#### Internet Sites

- [www.google.com](http://www.google.com) - Images of plastic containers
- [www.brighthub.com/environment/green-living/articles/107380.aspx](http://www.brighthub.com/environment/green-living/articles/107380.aspx) facts about plastics
- [www.Dreamstime.com](http://www.Dreamstime.com) Images of kinds of plastics
- [www.suburbanstats.com](http://www.suburbanstats.com) statistics about the number of households in Cherokee County

#### Interviews:

- Our mothers, fathers, grandmothers, and a cousin
- Mrs. Allison- Music teacher at Goucher
- Mrs. Donna Smith- Cafeteria Manager of Goucher Elementary
- Mr. Josh Wyatt- Employee of the Cherokee County Recycle Center

### Take your own Trash Trek:

- Chose a piece of trash. You could pick glass bottles, yard trimmings, plastic water bottles, butter tubs, or even a pizza box.
- Decide on a kind of trash.
- Interview people to find out how they handle this trash.
- Do research
- Some questions to ask:
  - How long does this trash take to break down?
  - Are there different kinds of this trash?
  - How can you reduce, reuse and recycle this trash?

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Team members doing research.