

# Educational Program of the Month

## Recycle, Reuse, Re-Craft!

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<b>School:</b>	University of Washington	<b>Region:</b>	PACURH
<b>Person in charge:</b>	Sierra Gernhart	<b>Nominator:</b>	Taran Dike
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<b>Target Population:</b> 40	<b>Time Needed to Organize:</b> 2 weeks
<b>Number of People in Attendance:</b> 60	<b>Date(s) of Program:</b> December 2, 2011
<b>Number of People Needed to Organize:</b> 3	<b>Cost of Program:</b> \$0
<b>On-Campus Population:</b> 5600	<b>Chapter Size:</b> 56

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### Origin of Program:

At the end of the quarter, there tends to be a lot of leftovers from the excitement of the previous weeks. There are scraps of extra poster paper from those Halloween signs. Entire school newspapers that never got read laying around. Two tubs of ice cream from 80s Night that were never eaten. A few of the more artistic Resident Advisers in McCarty Hall noticed all of these "scraps" and "leftovers" and saw an opportunity to teach the residents in the building about being more environmentally friendly and reusing the resources that are available.

Word Count: 94

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### Please give a short description of the program:

The Resident Advisers brought all of the necessary supplies, including newspaper, poster paper, and ice cream. They came prepared too, having done research into origami and other possible creations for the residents that are not as creative or artistic as others. The Resident Advisers cut some of the paper into strips, but also brought scissors to the program. To help with attracting residents and keeping the mood light (and the creative juices flowing), one brought her laptop to play music.

Throughout the night, residents were free to drop by and grab some ice cream (in their own bowls to be sustainable). However, most ended up staying for the entire two hour event, and some much longer. There were a few tables set up along with the couches from the lounge. Students sat together with mounds of colorful paper in front of them. The Resident Advisers brought a few pre-made examples of stars, crowns, flowers, etc., and spread them around for students to copy. They also supplied printed instructions for some of the more ambitious designs, such as a frog.

They walked around throughout the night, socializing and checking in, making sure all of the residents were enjoying themselves. When needed, they were able to step in and lend a hand, or offer compliments on some of the creations.

Word Count: 219

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### Goals of the program:

The old adage of "one man's trash is another man's treasure" could not be more true based on this program. I was certainly surprised and impressed by all of the possible creations from a simple sheet of

newspaper. Residents were able to take home something tangible from the event, something that is a source of pride. Because of the hands-on nature of arts and crafts, students were encouraged to work together, show off their creations, and make new friends. These were the goals of the program.

Word Count: 86

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**Positive and lasting effects of the program:**

Students were able to see all of the positive things that can come from what is normally thrown away or recycled. One student in particular stuck out to me. She created a little star from some pink paper. She then attached it to another strip to create a ring. To top it all off, she made a crown from newspaper. She radiated joy because of a few scraps of paper that would have been recycled.

Students Expressing Environmental Dedication, or SEED, was also in attendance. They were willing to talk to students about sustainability, something that is very important to our campus. They also brought lanyards that were made out of old T-shirts, something I did not know was even possible.

Word Count: 122

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**Short evaluation of the program:**

This program was an incredible success. There were more residents than expected in attendance, especially considering it was a Friday night, a time when many residents go back home for the weekend. Many programs tend to be "drop-in" (i.e. get ice cream and leave), but this program encouraged cooperation and hence got residents to stay and learn.

After over two hours of crafts, residents did not want to leave. They were having too much fun. This is highly unusual for most programs, let alone one that is educational.

Word Count: 89

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**How could this program be adapted to other campuses?**

This program would be very easy to adapt to other campuses. In the spirit of the theme, use what you have. Having this program at the end of the quarter is best, that way there are extras from previous events to use. This can include food, prizes, newspapers, crayons, poster paper, etc. If there is a sustainability group on campus, invite them to attend.

While it may seem like this type of program is difficult to plan, utilize what is around you. No two events will be the same, but that adds to the originality and creativity that is the heart of this type of program.

Word Count: 106