

AN EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES BOOK

TAKE THE **TECO** CHALLENGE™



**Do You Have What It Takes  
to be a Green Superhero?**



COUNTY OF ORANGE  
**Waste & Recycling**  
Our Community. Our Commitment.



**DiscoveryCube**  
ORANGE COUNTY

# NOTE TO PARENTS AND GUARDIANS

## Green Superheroes Wanted!

The “Take the EcoChallenge” educational activities book teaches children about the environment and what they can do to help keep the Earth clean and green. Each page has a fun activity to learn about the right way to reduce, reuse and recycle our resources. In just three easy steps, your child can become a Green Superhero by making small changes for a big impact. Our planet is calling on YOU to step up to the challenge!

### How to Help:

#### **Step #1:** *Work on the Activity Book together*

Help complete or explain any concepts that your child does not understand. Be sure to check out the OC Resources page at the end to see which ones can be part of your everyday efforts to reduce, reuse, recycle.

#### **Step #2:** *Visit the EcoChallenge Exhibit at the Discovery Cube OC*

Discovery Cube OC and OC Waste & Recycling partnered to bring an interactive, eco-friendly recycling exhibit to Orange County residents at the Cube. Take the free child admission coupon on the back of this activity book for a hands-on experience that reinforces what you and your child have learned.

#### **Step #3:** *Be a Green Superhero Every day!*

Make a commitment to adopt your own earth-friendly practices at home. Make plans to take a compost class, label some recycling bins at home or plan a trip to your closest Household Hazardous Waste Collection Center to drop off items that should be kept out of the trash. Empower the whole family to put eco-friendly practices in place.

#### **Step #4:** *Pick Up Quality Compost*

Visit one of our compost locations. Bring home some compost to enhance your yards or gardens. Please visit [OCLandfills.com/compost](http://OCLandfills.com/compost) to schedule an appointment.

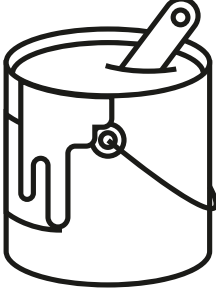



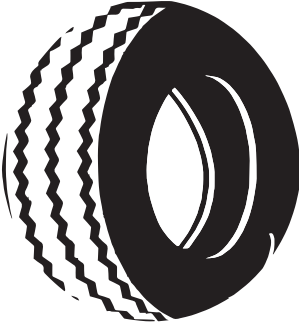
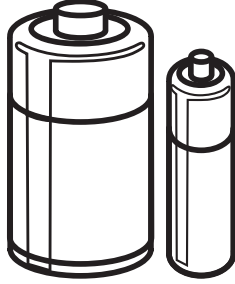
## Small Changes, Big Impact!



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# Household Hazardous Waste Quiz

Circle the ones that go to the  
Household Hazardous Waste Collection Center

		
paint	mobile phones	smoke detectors
		
refrigerator	tires	batteries

For a complete list of items accepted at our  
Household Hazardous Waste Collection Centers  
visit **[OCLandfills.com/hazardous](http://OCLandfills.com/hazardous)**

ANSWER KEY: batteries, mobile phones, paint, smoke detectors



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# Going Green Word Search

Circle the words listed below that are hidden in the box.  
Remember words can go up or down, forwards or backwards or diagonally.

plastic  
paper  
green

glass  
reduce  
reuse

recycle  
conserve  
organic

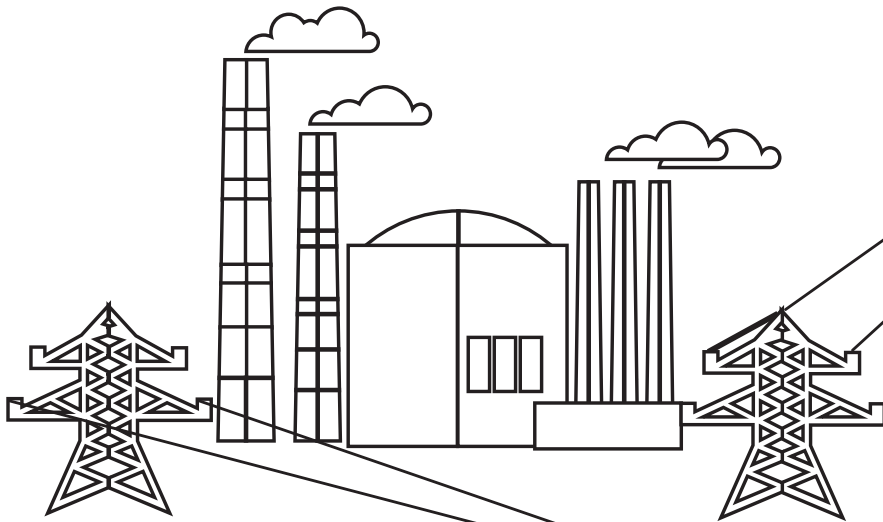
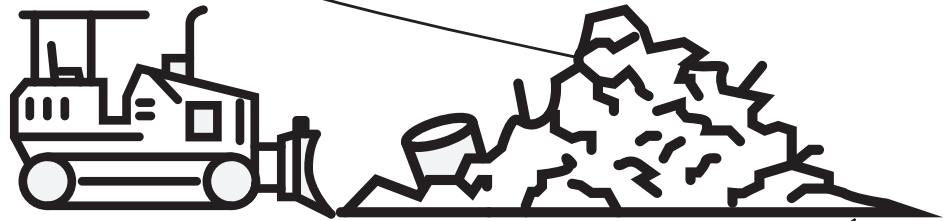


# Landfill Gas to Energy

Follow the journey from trash to energy



Americans generate about 4-6 pounds of trash a day per person.



OCWR's three landfills generate enough electricity to power nearly 68,000 average U.S homes.



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# Recycling Match-Up

Color each item and draw a line to match it to the correct bin.

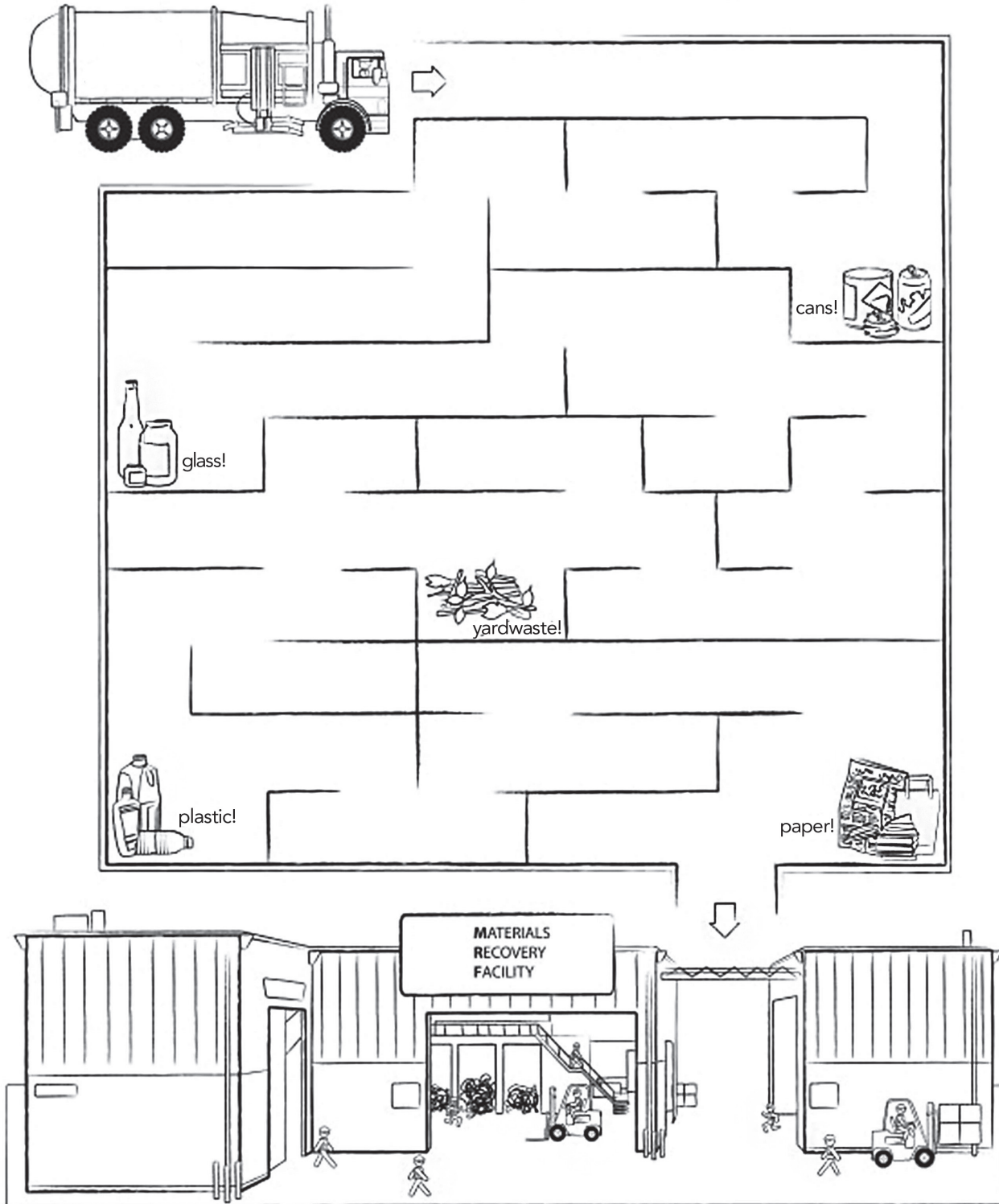


**ANSWER KEY:** Organics - sticks, flowers, apple core, bread  
Recycle - plastic containers, newspaper, cardboard  
Trash - cracked glass



# Garbage Truck Maze

Help the driver finish his route to the materials recovery facility, or MRF for short. There, recyclables are sorted and shipped off to begin a new life.





# Home Waste Audit

Did you know the average American generates about 4-6 pounds of waste per day that gets sent to the landfill? Take charge as a Green Superhero by taking this home waste audit.

Check the items you currently do at home. Then pledge two things you will do to reduce waste.

### I reduce:

- Food waste through better meal planning
- Food waste by composting inedible food
- Packaging by buying in bulk
- Trash with a reusable lunch bag and containers
- Plastic bags by replacing with reusable bags

### I reuse or repurpose:

- Clothing and shoes
- Home goods through donations or garage sales
- Shipping boxes
- Paper (including printer, wrapping, and newspaper)

### I recycle:

- Aluminum cans
- Glass and plastic
- Newspapers and magazines
- Cardboard
- E-waste by taking it to a Household Hazardous Waste Collection Center
- Batteries (HHW Center)
- Yard and food waste by placing into my green waste cart



**I pledge to reduce trash in landfills. List two new things you will do to decrease waste.**

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

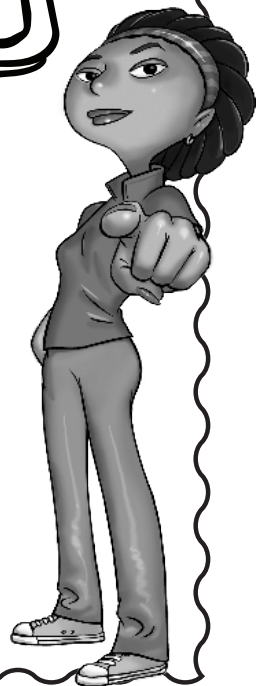
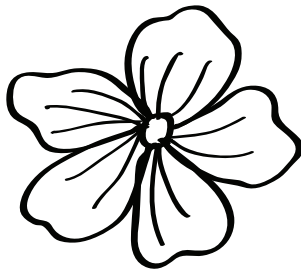
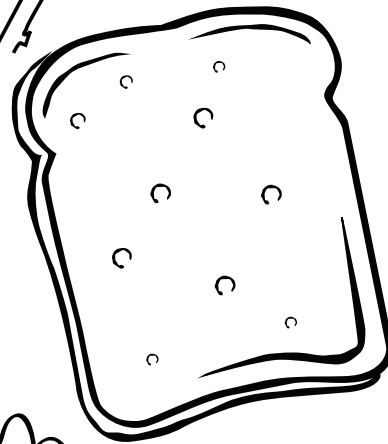
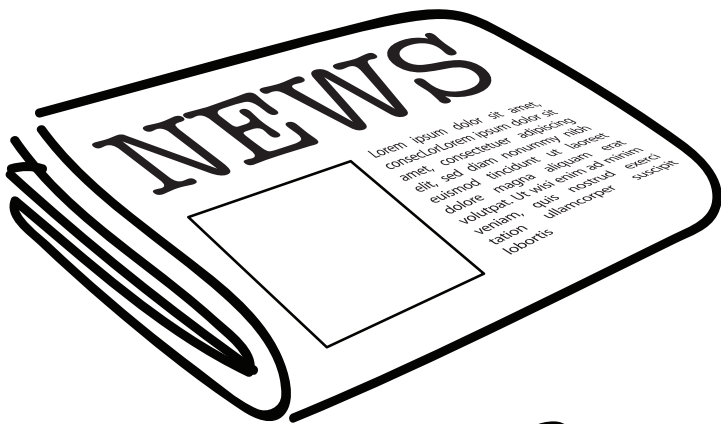
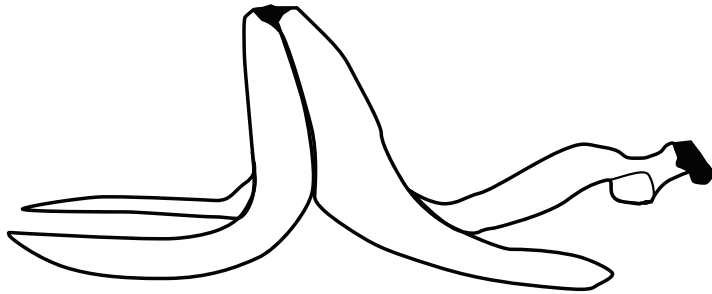


# Did you know?

About 56 percent of waste in landfills is organic waste.

Compost makes soil better for growing things.

Color the items below that can all be composted.



Visit [OCLandfills.com/compost](https://www.oclandfills.com/compost) to schedule an appointment to pick-up compost.



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# Repurpose

There are many things in your home that you can recycle and reuse. Ask an adult if you can share or donate toys, games, books, and clothes you don't need anymore.

**Activity:** Color SEVEN items in this room that can be recycled or reused when you don't need them anymore.



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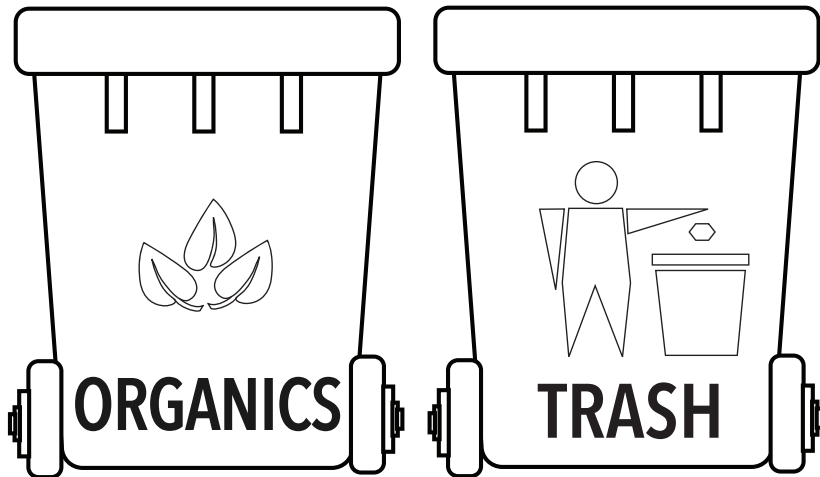
# Poop Free Zone

Did you know pet waste contaminates green waste?



# Poop Free Zone

Color the correct bin you should put your pet waste in.



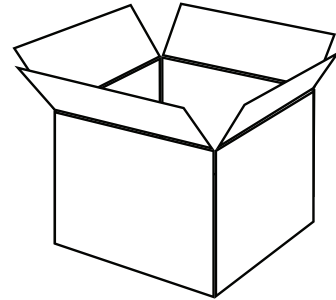
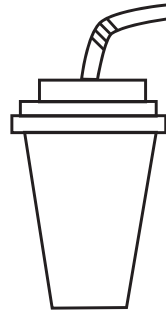
Put pet waste in your trash cart, not your organics cart.



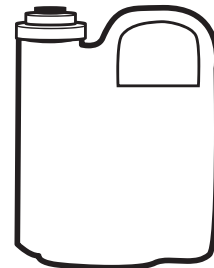
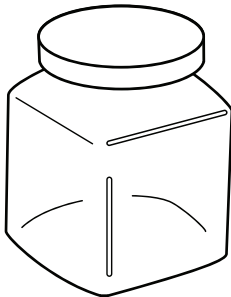
# Recycle, Reuse, Compost

Gross out any items that do not belong to the group.

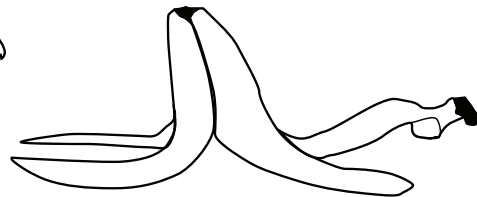
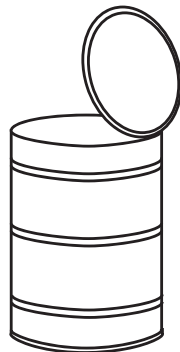
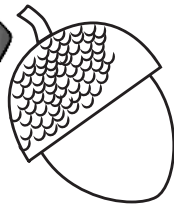
## Recycle



## Reuse



## Compost

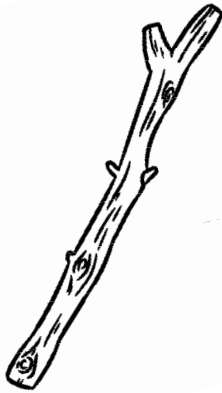
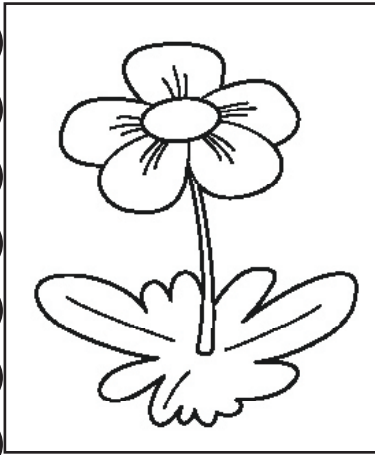


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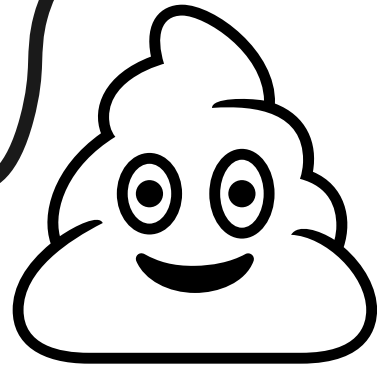
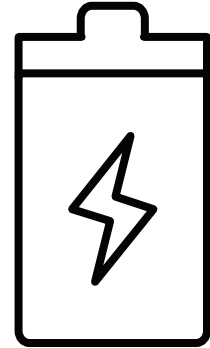
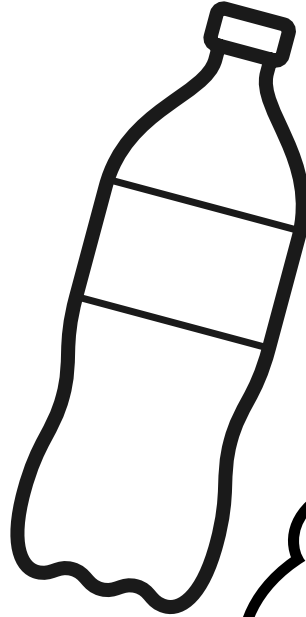
# Organics Cart?

Color all the items to remember what goes where.

Yes 



No 



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# Recycling Resources in My Community



## OC Landfills.com - OC Waste and Recycling

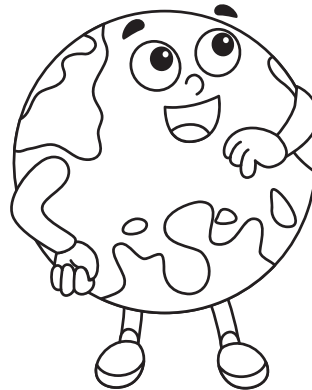
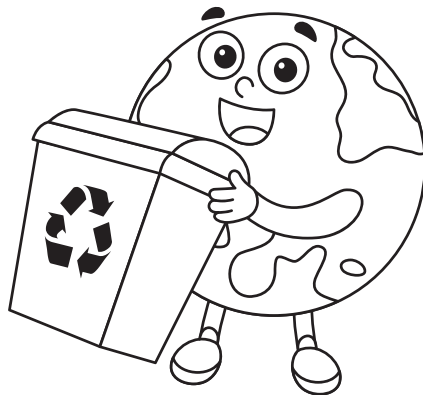
- Landfill hours, locations and fees
- Who picks up my trash?
- List of city recycling contacts
- Recycling tips and events
- Compost pick-up information

## Calrecycle.ca.gov

- Recycling Center locator for bottles and cans
- Used oil certified collection center locator
- Tire recycling programs
- Compost information

## Want to Learn More?

- Scan the code to join our email list!



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# COUNTY OF ORANGE RESOURCE RECOVERY

## OC Resident Guide to Services

Take advantage of OC's resources for recycling and disposal

### Community Compost



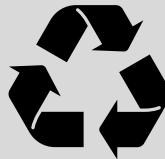
Scan the code to schedule an appointment.

### Household Hazardous Waste



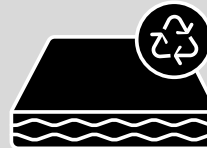
Scan the code for locations and more information.

### OC Recycle Guide



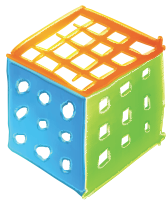
Scan the code for more information.

### Mattress Recycling



Scan the code for more information.

Come explore the exciting **NEW**



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ORANGE COUNTY

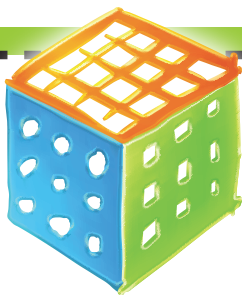
# ORGANIC WASTE LAB



PRESENTED BY



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**DiscoveryCube**  
ORANGE COUNTY

[discoverycube.org](http://discoverycube.org)

## FREE CHILD ADMISSION

Present this coupon at any Discovery Cube Orange County ticket window for one free child general admission (ages 3-14) per adult general admission ticket purchased. Valid any day Discovery Cube is open to the public and regular tickets are on sale. Not valid for special events. Physical coupon must be presented and given to cashier, no photocopies accepted. Cannot be redeemed online or combined with any other offer or discount. Limit 6 discounts per coupon. Hours, prices, promotions and exhibit availability are subject to change without notice. Only valid through **February 28, 2027**.

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