



Back-to-School Environmental Tips

- ④ Purchase a reusable lunch box or bag instead of using disposable lunch sacks. It not only saves money over the long run but also significantly reduces waste going to landfills.
- ④ Buy a sturdy, comfortable backpack that your child can use year after year.
- ④ Purchase recycled paper – then try to use both sides to reduce waste even further. Americans could save 85 million tons of paper annually by simply reusing and recycling.
- ④ Buy stretch-cloth book covers for your child's textbooks; they come in fun colors and designs and can be washed and used again and again.
- ④ When purchasing notebook binders, consider ones with clear slip cover fronts that can be reused. Have your kids create their own cover and simply replace it from project to project.
- ④ Reuse last year's plastic art or pencil box by decorating it with fabric paint and creating an all new look and design. No need to buy another one!
- ④ Try to buy beeswax or soy-based crayons, water-based paints, and water-based markers and glue, all of which are better for the environment than oil-based products.
- ④ Buy in bulk and avoid individually prepackaged items. It is significantly less expensive and can reduce what's thrown away. About 1/3 of all garbage in landfills is packaging.