

Thirty Minutes that Inspired One's Life



An inspirational moment lies at the core of every successful career. For one Landfill engineer, that moment arrived in her elementary school classroom as she watched the Los Angeles County Environmental Defenders bring environmental messages to life through music, song, and dance.

The Environmental Defenders Program is a well-established county program that has existed for 28 years. The Program educates students from K-5th grade on the Four R's (Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, and Rethink), household hazardous and electronic waste, stormwater pollution prevention, organic waste management, and water conservation through an interactive, 30-minute musical assembly. At the core of the assembly are songs that teach and inspire students to take a concrete step towards a more sustainable future. The assembly also features a pledge that reinforces the messages students learned from the assembly. Students participating in the promise gain a sense of personal responsibility and a commitment to environmental stewardship.

One former student and current Landfill Engineer provided the following statement regarding the Environmental Defenders, "The Program came to my elementary school sometime 2008-2010, and it really inspired me! I still remember some of the songs. Fifteen years later, I got my first job as a landfill engineer. So, thank you for a lifelong love of solid waste!".

The Program continues to reach Los Angeles County students, who are among the future defenders of our environment. In FY 2023-24, the Program reached 105,862 students at 294 elementary schools Countywide. To learn more about the Environmental Defenders Program, visit EnvironmentalDefendersLA.com.