

Dear Parent (s):

Your child is participating in a school curriculum to learn about the problems of and solutions to the solid waste predicament facing our world.

The program is sponsored by Browning-Ferris Industries (BFI), one of the world's largest solid waste services companies. **The Browning-Ferris Industries' MOBIUS Curriculum: Understanding The Waste Cycle** has been developed to provide up-to-date, professional materials on recycling and the solid waste industry.

Each American disposes an average of about three pounds of waste each day. Adding commercial and industrial waste to this total only raises the average. The United States generates over 180 million tons (164 million metric tons) - discards over 158 million tons (144 million metric tons) - of municipal solid waste annually. The problem of how to manage this waste is serious and must be addressed immediately. Recycling is **part** of the solution. By recycling paper, metals, glass, and plastic we can reduce this amount. Other parts of the waste solution include reducing the amount of materials we throw away, using waste as fuel to produce energy, reusing items instead of disposing of them, and composting leaves and other organic materials.

The curriculum introduces students to the New Three Rs: reduce, reuse and recycle. We can **reduce** waste by avoiding products that are excessively packaged or are for single-use only; we can **reuse** waste by finding other uses for items we would normally throw away (tin foil, plastic bags, shoe boxes, etc.); and we can **recycle** waste by separating recyclable materials from other trash and sending those recyclables to a recycling center.

We encourage you to support your child's efforts to learn about solid waste management and recycling. Environmental education will help to create a better world for you and your children, and for the generations to come.

Sincerely,

Browning-Ferris Industries