

Make Your Ideas Heard!

Want to share with others what you've learned about paper recycling and why you think it is important that they recycle? One way to do this is by writing a **persuasive essay**. The purpose of a persuasive essay is to convince someone to agree with your point of view. It is important to know that the best persuasive writing relies on facts—not opinions—and that it's helpful to plan ahead before you start to write. Follow the steps below to plan a persuasive essay on why you think it is important to recycle.

- 1. Prewrite:** Decide what it is you are trying to persuade someone to believe.
The subject of my persuasive essay about paper recycling in school is:

- 2. Plan Your Research:** In addition to what you've already learned, what else would you like to know about recycling?
Here are three questions that I would like to explore and answer about recycling:

Question 1: _____

Question 2: _____

Question 3: _____

- 3. Gather Information/Research:** Use the library, Internet, public documents, or personal interviews with your teacher, principal, or custodian to learn more about paper recovery in your school.
Here are three important facts about paper recycling that I uncovered (use additional paper as needed):

Fact 1: _____

Fact 2: _____

Fact 3: _____

- 4. Make Your Case:** You've gathered the facts; now it's time to list the reasons behind your point of view. Choose your *three* best reasons why you think someone should recycle. Also think about what you might say to someone who does not share your point of view.
Here are three main points that I am going to make in my essay:

Point 1: _____

Point 2: _____

Point 3: _____



You've done your research! You are now ready to write your persuasive essay. Remember to include an introduction, body, and conclusion. Using these elements will help you to organize your thoughts and support your argument with the facts you've gathered above.