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STT Group: 21 GHC Name: Food - Compost Crisis Warriors

Green Heart Action Plan (also in Google Classroom)

Problem Definition/ Problem Statement

In DeKalb County, Montgomery Elementary School is experiencing a lack of awareness of food waste and composting, and because many there do not know how to compost, it has led to increased food wastage. The contamination from food waste of the students is negatively affecting the environment via a lack of aesthetic appeal and pollution of the environment.

Root Cause of the Problem

Many students at this school do not know how to compost.

List at Least Three Credible Resources that Support Your Problem Statement

Proposed Solution

We want to reduce the amount of food waste at Montgomery Elementary School. The students and their families will benefit from this solution because they will learn about composting and ways to manage food waste. Our solution would help impact the community of the neighborhoods that feed into Montgomery Elementary School, thus not impacting one neighborhood, but multiple. Elementary schools often pull from a specific area and foster a sense of community, but they pull from a large enough area that our project will spread to.

Our project would help with the beautification of the community, but also manage food waste and



educate more people about composting. Our project does not directly beautify the community, but it encourages those we teach about it to, as well as potentially provide some resources through Home Depot to help further reach those goals.

How We Will Measure Our Success

Through sending out surveys after key workshops and before we even start handling the concept of composting with kids, we will see how far our impact and goal reach.

Who are Decision Makers We Need to Reach

We'll get approval from Montgomery Elementary to survey students, then pre-survey students and their families about composting. (Their interest, knowledge, limitations, etc.)

Our 3-5 Step Plan for Change

Survey: Our whole group will collaborate to make sure we all like the questions on the survey, but Deepavali and Caitlin will be the ones to contact the school, since they're the ones who are alumni of Montgomery Elementary School. They'll also be the ones to get the survey distributed (potentially paper, but likely an emailed Google form) to students. We're aiming to send an email to Montgomery Elementary by March 3rd. We'll go ahead and create the survey while we await approval, and hopefully get it to students by March 6th. Assuming this timeline works out, we'll stop collecting survey responses on March 13th.

We'll reach out to a nearby Home Depot to see if they're interested in providing assistance and support (compost supplies, other contacts). If not, our workshop can still happen. As a project team, we'll write and edit an email to the local Home Depot manager. We'll send this email as soon as we get approval from Montgomery Elementary, so likely anytime between March 3rd and 6th.

We'll host a workshop at Montgomery Elementary all about composting. Then, we'll post-survey families and students about composting (did they change what they're doing, etc.) Most, if not all, of our group will host some form of workshop at Montgomery Elementary. Given time constraints on our and the elementary school's schedules, this workshop may need to be delivered as a video and handout. In the same way that the pre-survey was distributed, we'll distribute the post-survey. We'll slightly edit the questions, but they'll be very similar. Depending on how we do our workshop, we'll do it/send it between March 16th and 23rd. The handout and/or video will include content summarized or created by us, as well as other (properly cited and credited) sources. It will likely be sourced/created at home. The post-survey will hopefully be sent out on March 23rd, but if the workshop is done sooner, it could be sent out sooner.

Impact & Equity

We'll know we're making progress if we see students engaged and excited during our composting workshop, and if, following it, we see them make changes in the way they manage their food waste. Also, if we form a partnership with Home Depot, another indicator will be that people use the resources provided through the partnership.

Our solution would help impact the community of the neighborhoods that feed into Montgomery Elementary School, thus not impacting one neighborhood, but multiple. Elementary schools often pull from a specific area and foster a sense of community, but they pull from a large enough area that our project will spread to.

What Help We Need to Be Successful

We plan to reach out to a nearby Home Depot to see if they're interested in providing assistance and support (compost supplies, other contacts). If not, our workshop can still happen if we get support from Captain Planet Foundation.