**Words to Know about Recycling**

ACCESS teachers are aware of the vocabulary that is associated with a topic of study. This does not mean that they will address all of the vocabulary with all children. The words to use with the children depends their developmental levels, areas of interest and how the investigation unfolds. ACCESS teachers should include the **relevant** “Words to Know” in purposeful ways throughout the classroom environment. ACCESS does not promote drill and practice memorization of vocabulary. Rather, new words are used to investigate, understand and document the concepts related to the topic of investigation. They are used by children, teachers and families in meaningful ways through writing, reading and speaking.

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| **Aquifer** | An underground layer of gravel, soil, or sand that is full of water. |
| **Atmosphere** | The layer of air around the Earth. Air contains nitrogen, oxygen, and other gases like carbon dioxide, water vapor and ozone. |
| **Climate** | The average weather. It includes things like temperature, rain and snow amounts, and wind speed. |
| **Climate change** | Major changes in temperature, rainfall, snow, or wind patterns lasting for many years. Climate changes can be caused by natural factors or by human activities. |
| **Compost** | Using a bin to transform your household garbage (food wastes, coffee grounds, etc.), into a rich earth-like material that can be added to a garden to help plants grow. |
| **Conservation** | A key part of waste "reduction" is "conservation"—using natural resources wisely, and using less than usual in order avoid waste. |
| **Environment** | Everything around us, both inside and outside. |
| **Exposure** | Coming into physical contact with something; being subjected to risk from a harmful action or condition |
| **Habitat** | The place or environment where a plant or animal naturally lives and grows. |
| **Light bulbs** | Devices that use electricity to provide light. |
| * **Compact Fluorescent Lights (CFLs)** | Lights with a coiled tube instead of the round bulb you see in old-style light bulbs (incandescent bulbs). They are like the long fluorescent light tubes you see in ceiling lights, but shrunk down and coiled up so they can replace incandescent bulbs. |
| * **Incandescent** | The most common type of light bulb, which produces light when electricity heats a thin metal wire. These light bulbs use the most electricity and are now illegal in many areas. |
| * **LED** | LED stands for light-emitting diode. LEDs produce light from the movement of electrons through a semiconductor material. Compared to incandescent light bulbs, LEDs use less energy, last a lot longer, are smaller, and are more reliable. |
| **Ozone** | A gas that is high in the atmosphere that protects the earth. |
| **Pollution** | When the environment is not clean. There are lots of kinds of pollution: air pollution, water pollution, soil pollution, even noise pollution. Pollution can come from nature or be man-made. |
| **Population** | All the people that live in an area; or all the animals of one kind that live in an area. |
| **Recycle** | Changing an item that could be thrown away to make something new. Making new items from recycled ones takes less energy and fewer resources than making products from brand new materials. |
| **Recyclable** | Something that can be reused to make new products. Plastic, paper, glass, steel and aluminum cans, and used oil are examples of recyclable materials. |
| **Reduce** | To make something smaller or use less, resulting in a smaller amount of waste. |
| **Reuse** | Using materials in their original form over again instead of throwing them away and replacing them with new items. |
| **Toxic** | Poisonous or harmful if it is breathed in, eaten and/or touched. |
| **Waste** | Anything we throw away or get rid of, that does not get used. |