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**ACTION TAKEN:** The environmental issue our team chose to improve is recycling crayons. We thought about problems that occur in Menlo Park School. Since many young students use crayons and other coloring tools, we decided to focus on a problem that involved crayons. Students use crayons so often that the crayons end up being tiny colorful morsels of wax. There are so many things that can happen to a crayon that make you unable to use it. It can break in half or even shrink because of how many times you use it! In the end, kids have to throw the crayons out. The crude oil in crayons is bad for the environment. However, there is a solution. We can reuse and recycle crayons. This is important to our school in many ways: it saves the environment, saves parents' money, and it helps kids develop a sense of helping the environment.

Student Names: \_\_\_\_\_  
Teacher Name: \_\_\_\_\_

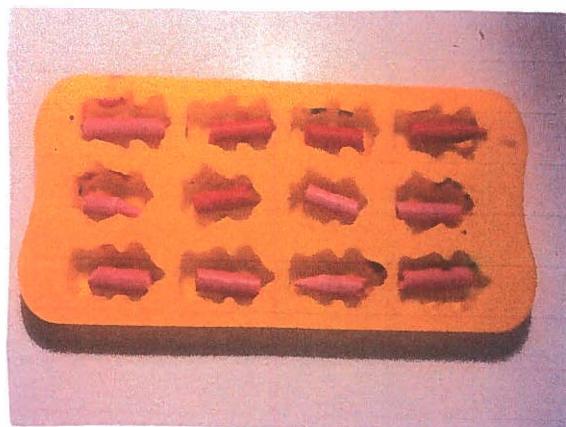
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# The Process of Making New Crayons:



Step 1: Peel the crayons.



Step 2: Break into pieces and place in molds.



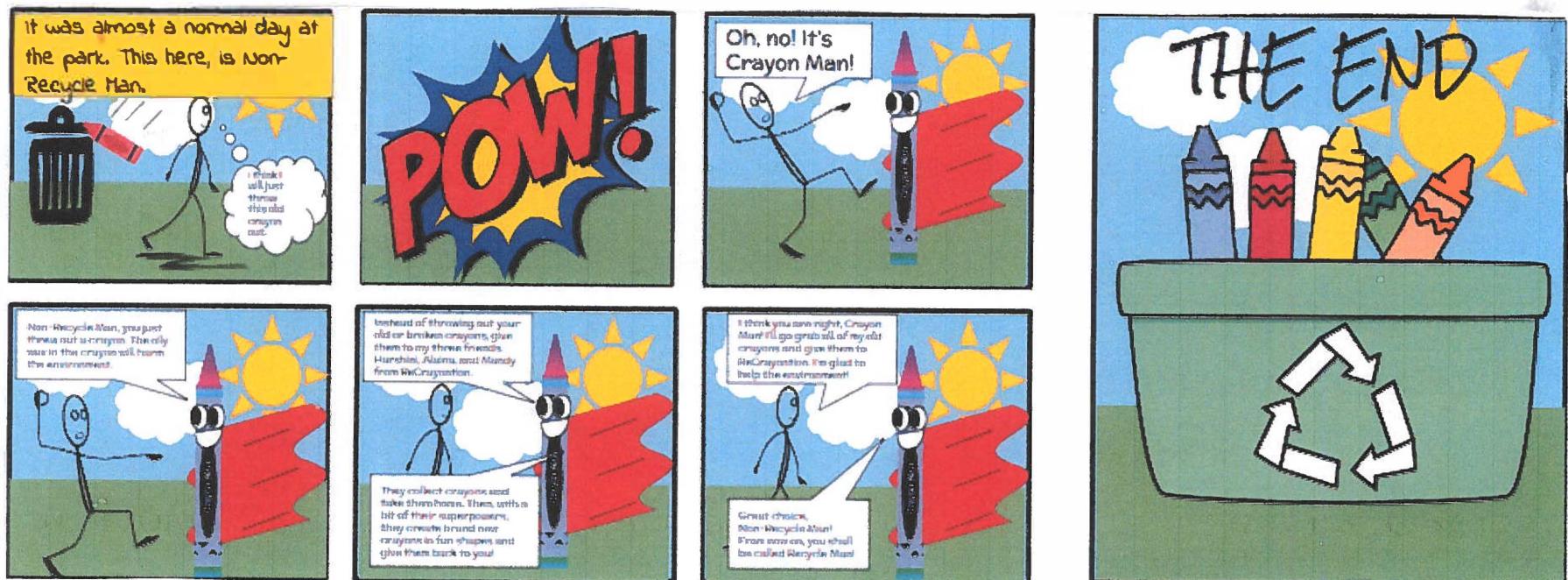
Step 3: Place mold in oven.



Step 4: Take out of oven and sort by color.

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**ACTION TAKEN:** The whole process to improve recycling crayons included challenging parts, easy parts, and my personal favorite, successful parts. Manly, Harshini, and I learned a lot from the process of making our school a more environmentally friendly place. Our first step was asking for permission from our principal. This was one of our successful parts. After receiving permission to launch our project, Recrayontion, we created flyers to get the message out to parents, teachers, and first grade students. We contacted first grade teachers through email and set up times to make announcements to the classes. Since we wanted to explain our project in a fun and easy way, we created a digital comic. When we made our announcements to the classes on Thursday, April 18<sup>th</sup>, we also presented our comic. They loved it! We provided decorated bins to the classrooms, which were the Crayon Collectors. We wanted the maximum amount of crayons we could get, so we gave the students two weeks to fill the bins with as many crayons as they could. On Friday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>, we went back to every class to collect the Crayon Collectors. The bins were all filled to the brim; some even overflowing with crayons! After a long Friday, we met on Sunday, May 5<sup>th</sup> at [redacted]'s house to make crayons. We chopped the crayons up into tiny pieces and poured them into molds. With the help of an adult, we put the molds in the oven to bake. After twenty minutes, the melted crayons were taken out of the oven to cool and harden. We sorted the crayons into bins. On Monday, May 6<sup>th</sup>, we passed the crayons back out to the first graders. As we walked into the classrooms, we saw the faces of kids who made a positive environmental impact on their school.



Our comic,

## THE ULTIMATE ADVENTURES OF Crayon Man!

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**ACTION TAKEN:** Our first successful mission was talking to the principal. We created a presentation that focused on Recrayonation. We focused on our goals and plans, as well as the process we plan to take for our project. We met with the principal on April 8, 2019. Permission was granted from our Science teacher and principal. We chose to collect crayons from first graders because they use a lot of crayons on a daily basis. We didn't choose kindergarten because managing both morning and afternoon classes would be a challenge. To spread the word out, we chose provide flyers. This was so the teachers and students had a better understanding of the project and what they can do to help. We wanted to properly introduce the project to the first graders. We had many challenges deciding what the best way was to present. Powtoon videos, posters, presentations! The options were endless! Our original idea was to make an article announcement, but our audience was so young, as they were only in first grade one day, we had the sudden brainwave to make an easy-to-understand comic! Not only was this a creative way to present, but also encouraged first graders

to help alongside Crayon Man, Recrayonation's mascot. Crayon Man's sidekicks needed a place to put all their old crayons. We labeled several different decorated boxes as crayon collectors. We chose to collect at the end of the week so we got the maximum number of crayons. We chose these specific steps to make sure our project was a success!

Student Names: Crashini Asok

Teacher Name: Crashini Asok

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## Panasonic Eco Picture Diary

Entry 4



Our finished crayons sorted by color.

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**ACTION TAKEN:** Overall, a lot of teamwork and cooperation with my teammates and I has been put into our project to make it the best it could be. First off, we made a presentation to show our principal so we could get his permission to start our project. I decorated the presentation and created our logo, while my other teammates, Alaina and Harshini, created the process and goals slides. After showing our Principal the slideshow, he granted us permission to move on. Next, we created a comic as an advertisement to inform the first-graders about ReCrayontion, our project name. We showed this comic to the students when we made our announcement to them. My team and I also created flyers with fun facts and our logo to help spread the word out. On May 3rd, we went to the classes to collect the crayons from the first-graders. Over the weekend, we made the new crayons and redistributed them back to the students on Monday. My ... it ... at... it shapes such as robot, stars, dinosaurs, etc. This project inspired kids to start helping the environment, saved their parents' money, and help the Earth be a more Eco-friendly place.

Student Names: Alaina Shinde

Teacher Name:

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## Panasonic Eco Picture Diary Reflection

1 What is the most important thing you learned in this project?

The most important thing we learned was how to solve spontaneous problems that come our way.

2 What do you wish you had spent more time on or done differently?

We wished we spent more time planning ahead and thinking about the steps it would take to do this project.

3 What part of the project did you do your best work on?

We did the best work on presenting and organizing our project for the first graders.

4 What did you enjoy most about this project?

We most enjoyed working together as a team (as well as making the crayons!)

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