

Don't Waste Your Food
Discussion Guide
Grades 1-4

Before Reading: to activate schema, build background knowledge, and set a purpose.

- Discuss the idea of not wasting food.
- Before reading, have a class discussion to activate prior knowledge about wasting food? Do you know what it means to not waste food? Do you put more on your plate than you can eat? Make a list of student generated responses on an anchor chart or whiteboard.
- Frontload vocabulary: food waste, compost, fertilizer, landfill, global warming, air pollution, greenhouse gases, methane, environment, good to be green

During Reading: to engage students, check for understanding, and make connections.

- Why do you think Amara's dad was teaching her about not wasting food?
- Are the illustrations & stories within the story helpful in understanding the concepts of what food waste is, and how to reduce it in your family. Why?
- What are you learning about reducing food waste in your home, your school, your community or town, your world?

After Reading: to summarize, question, and reflect.

Use a chart to have the students list in two columns

- ways to reduce food waste in your daily life
- ways we can all help reduce food waste in our homes and our communities

If your students enjoyed this book...

- Encourage them to continue to discuss the topic and work toward reducing food waste.
- Let them explore more about the topic by reading other books about reducing food waste, such as [*Zero Waste Kids*](#) or [*Don't Throw That Away!*](#)