

STOPWASTE

May the 4Rs Be With You Contest 2024

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My 4Rs: Regive, Reduce, Remind and Reach

The School Donation

It was a hot Friday. When I got back home my mom had many boxes stuffed with old toys and books. I asked her, "Mom, what are these boxes for?"

"We're **regiving** some of your old toys and books you never use anymore," she replied.

"Why do we have to give stuff to the school if they have so much already?"

She answered, "Well, the school may have a lot of things but in the long term it will help them make their classrooms a lot better!"

"Wait," I said, "There's still things I want that are in these boxes!" I started to dig even deeper.

My mom said, "You may want things but you don't need these things. **Regiving** these things will also help **reduce** how much stuff we have laying around here."

"That's true." I responded. She then closed the box and started stacking them to get more boxes ready.

Our school sent out a flier a week ago saying we were asking for toys or books to start a pre-k at our school next year. They were asking for donations for the classroom. I thought to myself, "I can't believe my mom kept this!"

My mom came to the living room and said, "Because it's a Friday, do you want to have a movie night? We could watch Star Wars. Go get your t-shirt on and I'll make some popcorn and bring out some drinks!"

I responded with a big and loud SCREAM. I ran up the stairs and quickly got dressed in my Baby Yoda t-shirt and brought down my ewok stuffy!! When I got downstairs the drinks were ready and my mom was popping the popcorn. My dad came and set down his things and then started to get dinner ready. And he said we were having ramen with tempura!

"My favorites?" I yelled.

He responded, "Yep."

I was so happy I started bouncing like crazy. "Maybe donating these things won't be as bad." I thought to myself. Just as we finished *Revenge of The Sith* my mom pulled out ICE CREAM! I ran over to the cupboard and grabbed spoons and bowls. My mom scooped out the ice cream and I gobbled it up.

The next morning my friend texted me asking if I wanted to come over, I said, "Sure!" I then told my mom I was leaving then ran out of the house. I remembered, I should **reach out** to my friends and tell them about this donation happening. When I got to my friend's house there were more of my friends. I started to **reach out** to them and tell them about the donation happening this week. We decided we should go through their things and donate some items they might not use. After we went through their things we decided to start a lemonade stand and sell cookies, lemonade, candy and other drinks. We started to set up at a park near them and started to sell. We earned a total of 50 dollars today. We each got around 16 dollars.

By the time we finished packing up I had to head home. On Sunday I stayed home and just relaxed and finished boxing some more items. Tomorrow will be the day I **regive** these items.

The next morning I popped out of my bed and ran downstairs. My dad was starting to load the boxes already. I came down and got my cereal. We got to school a little early to give the boxes to the school. I went to my classroom and sat down in my seat, and more of my

classmates started to pour in. When the bell rang the teacher **reminded** the kids that this week they were taking donations to help for the Pre-K classes.

This week we started talking about: **Regiving, Reducing, Reminding and Reaching Out**. My teacher used an example about a student's mom who donated a lot and wanted to **regive** items to help **reduce** how much they have and how the kid **reminds** his friends. And how anybody can **reach out**.

By the end of the donation week they had over 200 items donated.

Read Noah's full story online here –

<https://bit.ly/noahs-story>