



**ACTION FOR
APES**
AT THE HOUSTON ZOO

Dear Parent/Guardian,

We are very proud to be partnering with the Houston Zoo over the next several weeks in a cell-phone recycling challenge called "Action for Apes". Through APE-ril 30th, we will be working hard to collect as many handheld electronics, like cell phones, as possible to be recycled through the zoo. To win the contest, we must recycle the most by the APE-ril 30th deadline, and we need your help! Please assist us in this challenge by working with family members to collect old items, which students can then bring to school in their backpacks to be added to our donation bin. If we win the challenge, we will be the recipients of a one-of-a-kind painting to hang in our hallways, done by the Houston Zoo gorilla troop!

Why recycle through the Houston Zoo's Action for Apes Challenge? Recycling handheld electronics, like cell phones directly helps animals like gorillas and chimpanzees in the wild. A mineral (called tantalum) is found in almost every cell phone, as well as laptops and cameras. This mineral comes from the ground in Central Africa, which happens to be where animals like chimpanzees, gorillas and okapis live. When the mineral is taken from gorilla and chimpanzee habitats to be used in electronics, the homes of chimps, gorillas and okapis become disrupted and these animal populations decrease.

If you recycle your old cell phone with the Houston Zoo, then the materials in the phone can be reused instead of getting new minerals from the ground in Central Africa. This helps keep the habitats in Central Africa safe and healthy for animals like gorillas and chimpanzees to live in.

Please join us in our participation in the Action for Apes Challenge and help us reach our goal and become the 2018 winners!!!

Thank you very much!



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