

SORTING AND COMPOSTING WASTE

at Queen Mary Elementary School

THE CHALLENGE

To improve waste sorting and compost knowledge at Queen Mary's in hopes that one day they may be able to utilize their school garden compost bins effectively.

OBJECTIVES

Teach students:

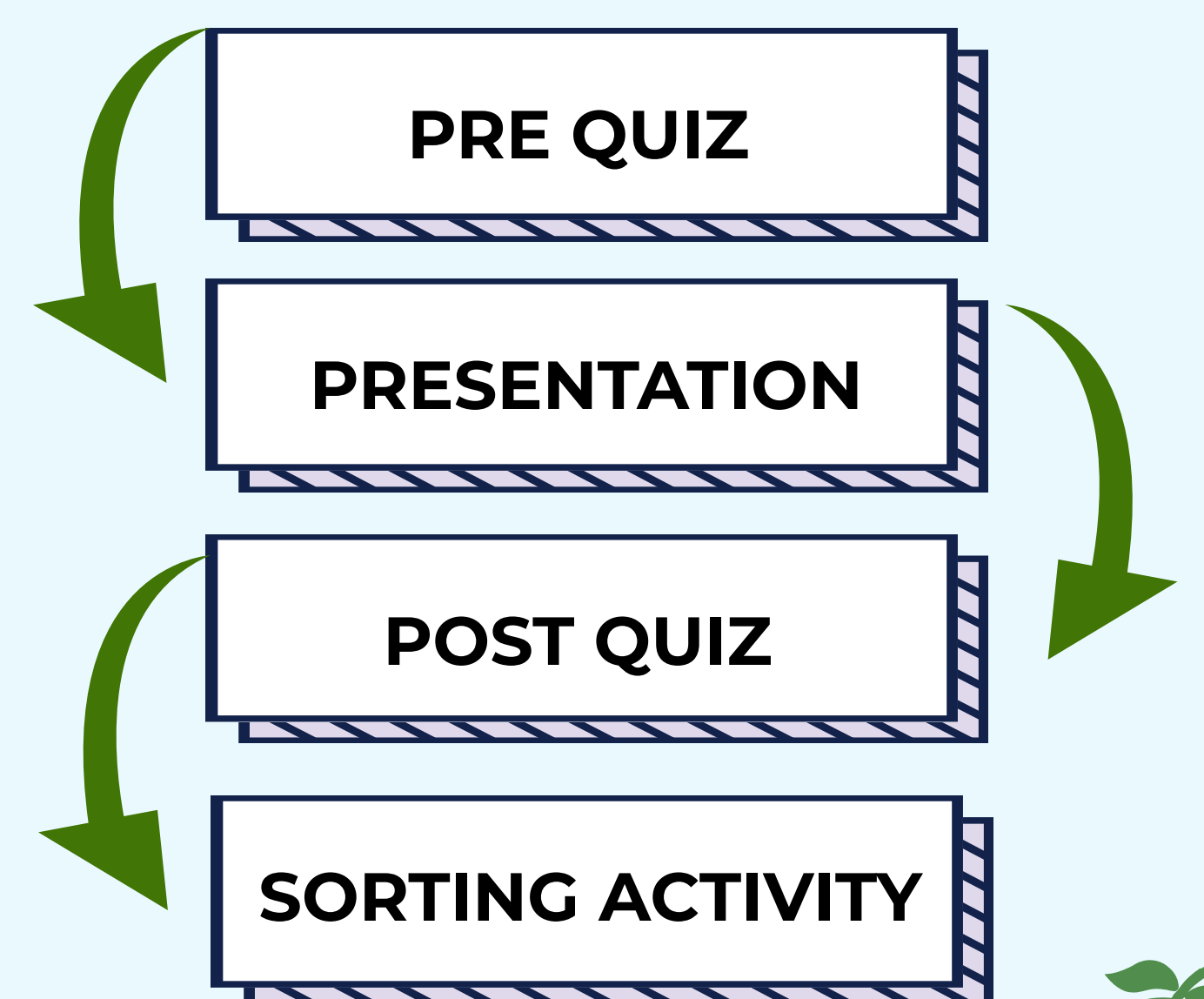
- 1) How to sort waste correctly.
- 2) The importance of compost in relation to sorting waste properly.



How can we teach and inspire students to sort their waste correctly?

OUR APPROACH

Developed a workshop where students:
1) Were tested on their knowledge about sorting and composting
2) Participated in activities which allowed them to use their skills from the lesson.



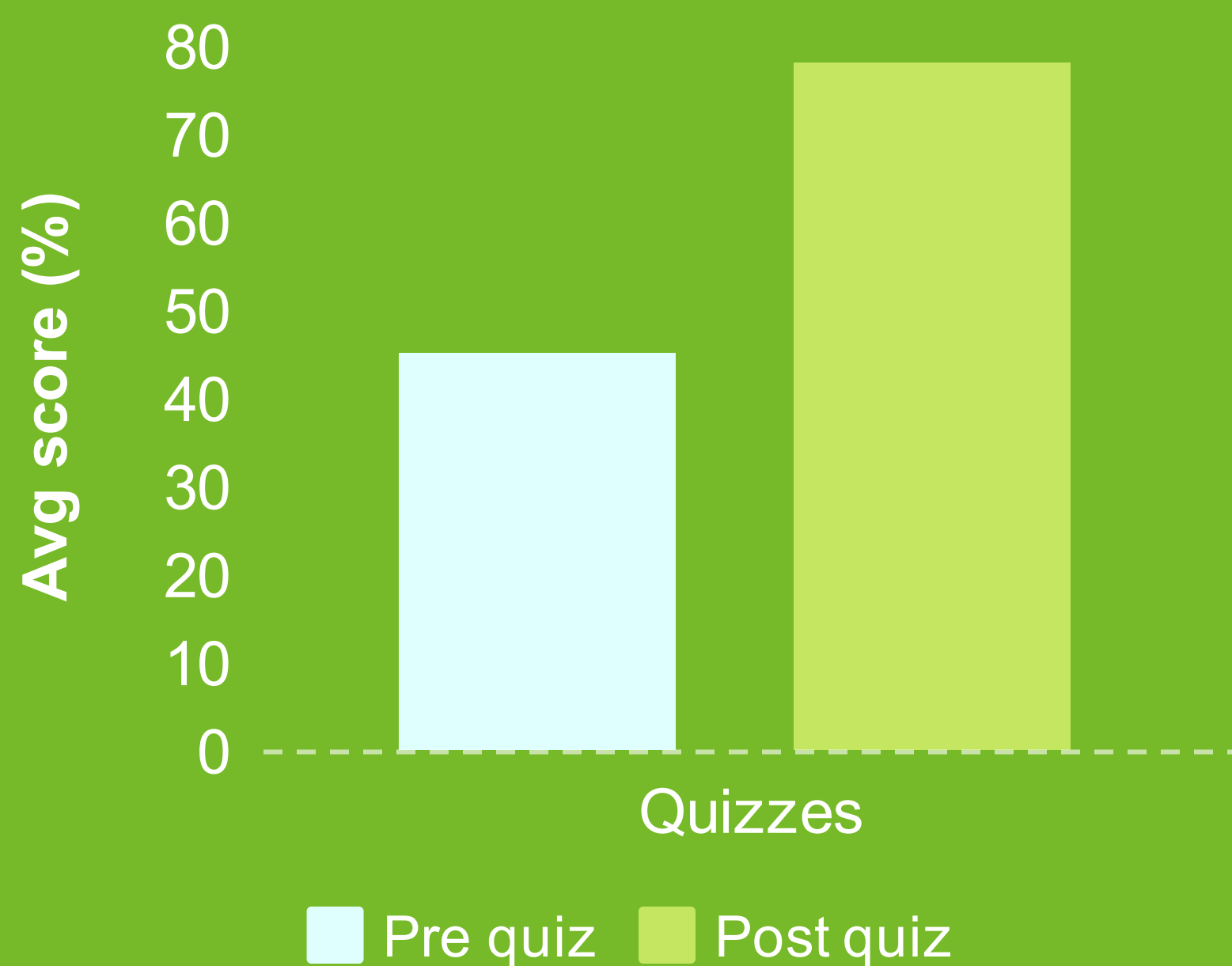
RESULTS

Our workshop resulted in an average

▲ 33%

increase in student knowledge compared to before the workshop

Average student scores in quizzes



We received positive feedback from the class' homeroom teacher.

"Sorting on the charts before sorting for real gave them the practice and confidence to dig in!"



TAKE HOME MESSAGE



Workshops focusing on sorting and composting organic matter can be implemented in schools to inspire and give children the opportunity to learn about the cyclical nature of food production.

References

Schupp, C., Getts, K., & Otten, J. (2018). An evaluation of current lunchroom food waste and food rescue programs in a Washington state school district. *Journal of Agriculture, Food Systems, and Community Development*, 1-20. doi:10.5304/jafscd.2018.081.013

