

## Eco-Friendly Reusable Markers

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Thank you to the C.A.R.E Grant Program, for funding three sets of reusable markers. These sets of markers will be stationed in classrooms for use by faculty and students. They will allow us to reduce the amount of disposable dry-erase markers that are normally used and replaced over the course of a few semesters. The reusable markers will not only aid our faculty and students in reducing our plastic waste, but can also serve as a talking point with students. In every biology course I teach, we discuss the interconnectedness of living things, how other plants, microbes, and animals affect humans, and how humans, in turn, affect them. Unfortunately, one of the lasting impacts that humans have had upon our ecosystems is the extensive dumping of wastes, many of which are not biodegradable. By modeling better practices, we can help influence our students to be more mindful of how our small, day-to-day activities can have large impacts on the planet.



Photos: One of my students staying after class to ask questions. I showed her the reusable marker kit and we discussed some ecological impacts of plastics, while practicing for a lab exam.