



Circular Spark Bingo

Collect real project seeds while you tour the Barn.

HOW TO PLAY

As you tour, mark a square only if you can jot a 5–8 word note (what you saw + why it matters for kids). First 4-in-a-row wins a small prize — then keep collecting. The card is a harvest tool, not just a race. At the bottom, star your two strongest sparks. You will mash those into a project idea after the tour.

TRASH → PRODUCT

Find something that used to be trash and is now a product.

note

CLOSED LOOP

Spot a closed loop: waste from A becomes input for B.

note

NEW WORK

A job or skill that did not exist 15 years ago.

note

CRUNCH THE NUMBERS

A number or rate students could investigate.

note

STILL LANDFILLED

A material Charlotte still landfills that the Barn is diverting.

note

REPAIR, DON'T REPLACE

An example of repair instead of replace.

note

MAKE IT

Something a student could physically design or make here.

note

REAL AUDIENCE

A real audience or partner beyond "the teacher."

note

THE 5 RS

Evidence of reuse, reduce, recycle, repair, or refuse in one station.

note

60-SECOND STORY

A story you would tell students in 60 seconds.

note

GRADE-LEVEL HOOK

Something that would hook YOUR specific grade.

note

THE TENSION

A tradeoff: cost, scale, contamination, time, or equity.

note

SCHOOL-SIZED

A system that could work on a school campus.

note

WASTE + BEAUTY

Something beautiful made from waste.

note

UNANSWERED QUESTION

A question a student would ask that you cannot answer yet.

note

FREE SPACE

One thing that surprised you. Write it here.

note

MY TWO STRONGEST SPARKS

1. _____ 2. _____

Bring these two sparks into the Project Mash-Up after the tour.



Project Mash-Up

Turn two four sparks into one authentic PBL seed — in about 8 minutes.

PROJECT SENTENCE STEM

Students will _____ so that _____ can _____.

The product must be public or useful — a proposal, audit, prototype, pitch, or workshop — not a poster.

1 Silent harvest • 90 seconds

Circle two sparks on your bingo card. Add the grade band you actually teach and one content area.
Star the spark that still has energy — the one you keep thinking about.

2 Forced combo • 4 minutes • pairs or trios

Steal one spark from a neighbor who teaches a different grade or subject. You now have three ingredients:
Barn spark A + neighbor spark B + your students and standards.
Write one sentence using the stem above. Keep it specific to something you saw in the Barn.

3 Stress test • 2 minutes

One partner plays skeptic: Where is the authentic need? Who would actually use this?
What is the first student task on Monday? Revise one word if the answer is weak.

4 Speed share • 90 seconds per pair

Read only the sentence. We will capture seeds on a chart: Elementary / MS / HS / Cross-curricular.
Optional stretch: map your seed onto a Barn field-trip frame (Eco-Engineers, Scraps to Sustainability, Repair and Rewear, or the Middle School Capstone).

OUR PROJECT SEED

Grade / subject: _____

Spark A: _____

Spark B: _____

Sentence: _____

First Monday task: _____