Materials Stewardship Training

Our last stop was the Taylor Chapel, and Elder Eyring stood near the pulpit on the stand and surveyed the seating area for quite a long time. After a few minutes, I asked him: “Elder Eyring, what are you thinking about?” He answered with this profound and penetrating observation: ***“I am thinking about how much we do for so few and how little we do for so many.”*** He then continued, “The tithing of the people I just visited in South America and from good people all over the world paid for this facility. And most of the people who have made this beautiful facility possible will never see or step foot in a building like this. That is what I am thinking about.”

That experience and the lesson I learned from Elder Eyring influenced me greatly during the time I served at BYU–Idaho. The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints has invested millions of tithing dollars over the last 15 years to upgrade the BYU–Idaho campus and programs. Such expenditures have been made to enhance your learning, developmental, and employment experiences. ***Please do not take these sacred resources, your choice opportunities, and this beautiful campus for granted.*** Please do not think that you are somehow more deserving or worthy. Please be grateful for the singular chance you have to learn and work here and for the responsibility that rests upon you as one who has been the recipient of great blessings. (Elder David A. Bednar, as President of BYU-Idaho)

Principles of being a good steward of Lab Resources:

1. Always treat the materials with care.
   1. You model to children how to treat materials. If you toss them, treat them harshly, kick them aside; so will they. Toys are broken every semester. Some classes more than others.
2. Put away items correctly and completely
   1. Puzzles should be assembled
   2. Sets should be put away as a set and counted to verify numbers used were returned (cupcake and other counters)
   3. Put on the right shelf with their “friends”. Never put something in a place that you cannot find another item like it and never, ever just leave it on a counter or shelf.
3. If you are missing a puzzle piece, part of a play set, etc. then search for it like the woman in Luke 2 looks for the lost coin. 😊 Do not leave the classroom until it is found. Once you leave, the garbage goes out, etc. the chances of finding it are almost nothing.
4. Keep order in every storage space. If you don’t know where something goes; ask or look at the charts and materials lists to help you. It is a domino effect when something is shelved incorrectly, especially in the Gross Garage.
5. Do laundry like it is your own machine and your personal items that you want to keep looking/working good.
   1. Don’t wash leather purses, vests, chaps or plastic smocks and tablecloths.
   2. Shake out drop cloths, towels, rags, etc. of all debris before putting in the hamper
   3. Put small, tangly items (scarves, doll clothes, etc.), into mesh bags.
   4. Don’t put folded, clean drop cloths, towels, or rags through if they were not used.
6. Clean up after yourself and be a Good Samaritan.
   1. Pick up items in the workroom and resource rooms after you get them out or use them.
   2. If you see something sitting out and no one there; put it away.
   3. Use the prep trays and label items being used in 203/213 from RR1. Otherwise, there should not be anything on the counter.
   4. Keep the classroom and the closets clean, orderly, and usable by everyone.