From Meh to Masterpiece

Not all AI prompts are created equal. **A weak prompt** gives you a vague, boring, or confusing answer. **A strong prompt** gives you something clear, useful, and tailored for your audience.
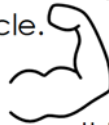
In this activity, you'll read **two AI responses** to the same topic - one from a weak prompt and one from a strong prompt - and then think critically about *what changed* and *why it matters*.

AI Response A (Weak Prompt)

Recycling is when materials are used again instead of being thrown away. It helps the planet and keeps the environment clean. Recycling can be done with plastic, paper, glass, and metal. It is important to recycle.

AI Response B (Strong Prompt)

Recycling means turning old things into new things instead of throwing them out. For example, plastic bottles can become park benches, and paper can be turned into notebooks. Recycling saves energy and keeps trash out of landfills. It's something everyone can do-just sort your trash into bins for plastic, paper, and glass!

Your Mission: Compare and Improve - Read both responses carefully, then answer the questions below in complete sentences.

1. Which response sounds more interesting or useful? Why?

2. How does the second prompt's extra detail (like role, audience, or format) change the answer?

3. What clues tell you that the second response was written for a specific audience?

4. What kinds of words or examples does Response B include that make it more understandable or fun?

5. What exact words in the strong prompt probably caused those improvements? (Hint: look for grade level, format, or examples.)

6. If you were to write an even better prompt than the "strong" one, what would you add or change?