Action Card Deck

Printing Instructions

These printable action cards were developed to provide a new approach to planning your EcoSchools Actions. They offer a tangible opportunity to map out the initiatives you intend to implement for the school year. Review how each action can connect to your curriculum and determine whether you are able to incorporate environmental learning into your lessons.

Use the Action Cards to kick-start your EcoTeam planning by exploring the deck, sorting cards into categories, and creating a timeline for implementation. See the Planning Activity below for details. Once you have selected your actions, login to the EcoSchools Certification Application and add your chosen actions to your school's plan.

How to print:

- Go to Print > Properties to open printer system dialogue
- **IMPORTANT:** Select 2-Sided Print > Short Edge (this will ensure the pages are flipped correctly)
- Select Paper type > Cardstock and ensure correct tray is loaded
- Try printing pages 2-3 to confirm the pages are printing correctly. Repeat instructions for pages 4-25

Planning Activity:

Once you have printed your cards, it is time to plan for a year full of actions for the environment! There are many ways to engage with these cards. Here is one possible approach.

Materials: Printed action cards, poster board or chart paper, and markers.

Step 1 Sort the action cards into two categories:
Category A: Actions that are already established at your school
Category B: Actions that are not already established

Step 2 From the pile that has not been implemented at your school yet (**category B**), decide whether there are any actions you would like to incorporate this year. Add them to your **category A** deck.

Step 3 Divide a sheet of poster paper into 10 equal sections. Write the months (September - June) in the sections.

Step 4 Assign the actions to the months they will begin in. At this stage you may realize you have time to take on more actions, or that you need to remove some actions.

Step 5 You may wish to assign roles for each action and record it and other thoughts on the backs of the cards. For instance, assign someone to be responsible for communications for each action.

Step 6 Display your action plan physically in your school on a bulletin board, or virtually by taking a picture of your calendar and sharing it.

Step 7 Add the actions you have selected to your plan in the ECA by logging in to app.ecschools.ca.

Community Science

Become a community scientist (also known as citizen scientist) and contribute to important environmental research projects from across Canada, and beyond!

Points 5

This action can be connected to multiple or all SDGs.

Create Homes for Wildlife

Help protect local species and support biodiversity by creating safe homes and spaces for wildlife, where they can nest, feed, and thrive!

Points 5

Create Nearby Nature Guides, Maps, and Signs

Grow deeper connections to nearby-nature and share your learning by developing place-based field guides, maps, or signage!

Points 10

Indigenous Nature Based Technologies

Expand your understanding of existing green technologies by learning about and applying traditional ecological knowledge.

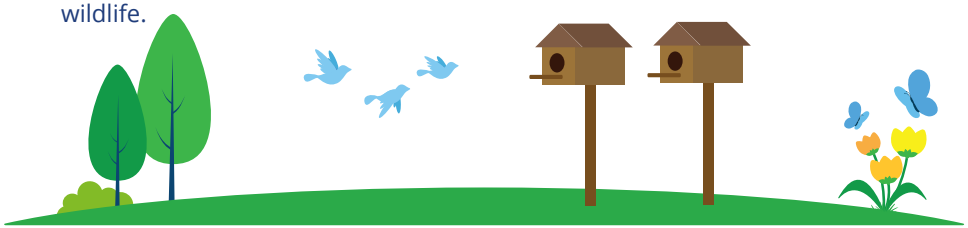
Points 5

Create Homes for Wildlife - Curriculum Info

Design and Technological Studies: Follow the steps to plan and assemble a wildlife home such as a birdhouse or bat box.

Science: Research local wildlife species. Determine the best type of wildlife home to construct and install on your school grounds. Use these homes throughout the year to gather scientific data by observing, tracking, and monitoring wildlife.

Geography: Assess the impact of urban growth on natural systems and wildlife. Describe strategies that urban planners, governments, and environmental organizations use to control urban sprawl and support wildlife.



Community Science - Curriculum Info

Science: Research the history of, and methodology for, conducting a Community Science project. How has community science been practiced throughout the years?

Civics: Explore an environmental policy instituted by the government (municipal, provincial, federal) that was influenced by scientific data. How was this data used to support the creation of the policy?

Indigenous Nature Based Technologies - Curriculum Info

Science: The Floating Islands of Al Tahla are built using a species of reed called qasab. Qasab can be woven into walls, twisted into rope, and used as a food source. Research the biotic and abiotic factors required for qasab reeds (also called Phragmites communis) to grow. Which biome(s) does qasab thrive in?

Social Sciences and Humanities: Research the evolution of the Lo—TEK Movement and discuss how it centres traditional ecological knowledge in the context of climate change technology. If cities had been built based on traditional ecological knowledge how different would the infrastructures and technological inventions be? Focus on the communities closest to you.

Create Nearby Nature Guides, Maps, and Signs - Curriculum Info

Geography: Practice cartographic or GIS skills by creating maps of local green spaces and ecological features.

Art: Design beautiful signage to help people identify and engage with ecological elements in your place. Observe, describe, and imitate “elements of design” found in nature such as colours, patterns, texture, etc.

Languages: Practice effective communication and develop vocabulary in various languages by crafting an engaging field guide for your place. Consider incorporating multiple languages into one guide!

First Nations, Inuit, and Metis Studies: Engage with local treaty partners, First Nations, Councils, or Friendship Centres to learn about your responsibilities to land, as well as Traditional Ecological Knowledge.

Indoor Gardening and Greenhouses

Bring gardening inside for hands-on, year-round learning about plants, food systems, nutrition, health and wellbeing.

Points 5

Low-Mow Zone

Let a grassy area of your school grounds grow wild and start studying with nature!

Points 5

Pollinator Garden

Plant a pollinator garden at your school and create a space that is not only beneficial to pollinators like bees and butterflies, but is also fertile grounds for learning.

Points 10

Supporting Canadian Species at Risk

Take action to raise awareness and support a species at risk in Canada.

Points 5

Low-Mow Zone - Curriculum Info

Science: Investigate the different species in your Low-mow Zone and describe how they are interconnected. How does reducing lawn maintenance on your school grounds improve biodiversity? Collect experimental biodiversity data by surveying an area before an after instituting a Low-mow Zone.

Mathematics: Determine a function to express the labour time, water use, and gas use of mowing your school yard. How much money, time, and resources could the school save by creating a Low-mow Zone? Talk about intersections of functions and optimization.

Indoor Gardening and Greenhouses - Curriculum Info

Science: Study the life cycle of a plant. Explore the different parts of a plant and conduct a stem bisection to better understand plant anatomy and functions. Learn and demonstrate an understanding of a variety of processes used in plant care (e.g., plant growth experiments, propagation, pruning).

Mathematics: Measure plant growth and collect data at every stage of development. This data can be graphed and compared against predictions.

Supporting Canadian Species at Risk - Curriculum Info

Civics: Investigate development plans in your local area. Determine if any of these planned developments will have an impact on a local wildlife species that is at risk. Plan a course of action to advocate for that species.

Science: Investigate which species are at risk in your neighbourhood and what kind of habitat is needed to support them. Who else lives in that habitat? On your school grounds, monitor the wildlife that lives there—build a food web!

Pollinator Garden - Curriculum Info

Science: Explore the life cycle of a monarch butterfly and begin an inquiry investigation into why their population numbers are decreasing. Have students apply their knowledge and understanding by designing a butterfly habitat that includes appropriate plant species.

Languages: Select a favourite fruit, vegetable, or nut crop, and research it and its pollinating partner for a written report or oral presentation.

Media Studies: Create an advertisement for your pollinator garden using the medium of your choice (i.e., brochure, video, etc.). Use the advertisement to encourage your school community to learn about and

School Ground Biodiversity

Explore the biodiversity of plants on your school ground through a survey and take action to support native species.

Points 10

The Bondar Challenge

Take inspiration from the work of Dr. Roberta Bondar and get connected to nature through the lens of a camera!

Points 5

Tree Planting and Maintenance

Plant and care for trees on your school grounds and experience the benefits for decades to come.

Points 10

Land Recognition and Reciprocity

Touch and honour the land, root reflection and connect with Indigenous knowledge, culture, and relations.

Points 10

This action can be connected to multiple or all SDGs.

The Bondar Challenge - Curriculum Info

Science: Investigate local biodiversity by photographing and identifying different species of plants and animals. Go a step further and classify each as a native or non-native species.

Art: Learn about concepts of photography including repetition and rhythm, light, balance, and movement.

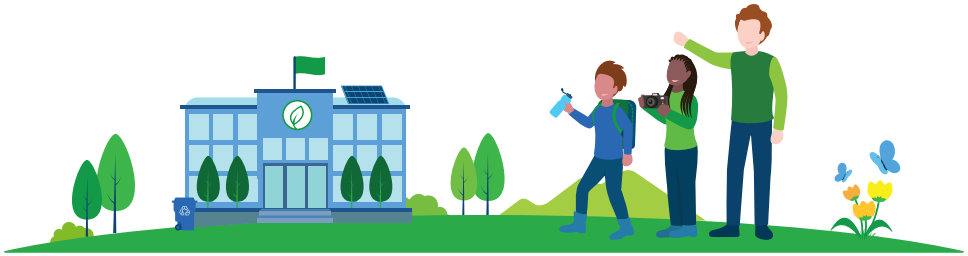
Languages: Practice descriptive and critical writing skills by writing an "artist's statement" to accompany the photograph submission for the Bondar Challenge.

School Ground Biodiversity - Curriculum Info

Mathematics: Practice counting and addition skills by compiling field data from many groups into a shared data set.

Sciences: Follow scientific protocols for rigorous data collection and documentation of field experiences. Conduct research about scientific concepts like ecology, biodiversity, food webs.

Civics: Study the history of protected ecosystems such as the Ontario Greenbelt and the legislation that was instituted to conserve this land. How have people, organizations, business, and local governments worked together?



Land Recognition and Reciprocity - Curriculum Info

Integrating Indigenous perspectives, knowledge, and history throughout the curriculum, rather than isolating them as separate topics helps students recognize the relevance and interconnectedness of Indigenous Ways of Knowing across various subjects.

Tree Planting and Maintenance at School - Curriculum Info

Social Sciences and Humanities: Research how planting trees benefits people and wildlife (food, shelter, reducing pollution, mental health, economic benefits, etc.).

Science: Investigate the biology of trees. Identify different tree species and the broader role they play in ecosystems. Learn how to identify trees by studying their different parts and examining their habitats.

Sit Spot

Cultivate awareness and well-being by regularly visiting one specific spot where you can sit, slow down, awaken your senses, and learn more about yourself and the local environment.

Points 10

Take Me Outside Day

Celebrate outdoor learning by hosting a one-day Take Me Outside Day event at your school to promote the importance of reconnecting with nature.

Points 5

Young Reporters for the Environment

Young Reporters for the Environment (YRE) Canada is a national environmental journalism competition for writers, photographers, and videographers aged 11-18.

Points 5

This action can be connected to multiple or all SDGs.

Community Clean-Up

Remove litter from the environment, learn about proper waste sorting, and demonstrate the power of working together!

Points 10

Take Me Outside Day - Curriculum Info

Physical Education: Go outside to play games, increase physical literacy, improve mental wellbeing, and/or conduct lessons that regularly happen indoors.

Environmental and Outdoor Education: Go outside and explore. What are some ecological services provided by living things on your school grounds?

Science: Explore the biodiversity and ecology of your local community while observing seasonal changes, patterns, and biological cycles. What are some ecological services provided by living things on your school grounds?

Sit Spot - Curriculum Info

Science: Explore the life cycle of local plants, native and invasive species growing in the local environment.

Health and Physical Education: Explore how spending time in nature can improve your lifestyle habits, relaxation, and stress management.

Art: Create a field journal where you can explore various art mediums (e.g., photography, painting, collage, botanical drawings) and include observational drawings and sketches.

Languages: Refine your grammar and spelling in a performative setting by writing reflective exercises on internal and external observations explored during Sit Spot.

Community Clean-Up - Curriculum Info

Art: Create a mural or sculpture using (clean) litter you've picked up for your clean-up and to communicate the importance of properly disposing of waste.

Science: Where does litter end up? Track the path of litter leading into the environment. What are the impacts?

Young Reporters for the Environment - Curriculum Info

Art: Introduce different techniques for creating photography and/or video. Split the class into groups (maximum 3 people per group) to take pictures or make videos to submit to the YRE contest.

Media Studies: Introduce the subject of journalistic writing by having students read various articles (i.e., news reporting, op-ed, blogs, etc.). Have students write an article to submit to the YRE contest.

Conduct a Waste Audit

Discover how much waste your school is producing so you can start reducing!

Points 10

Divert Textile Waste

Reduce, reuse, repurpose, repair, and recycle old textiles such as clothes, shoes, and bedding, and help to divert waste from the landfill.

Points 10

GOOS Paper

Get creative and reduce paper use at your school by using GOOS (Good On One Side) paper bins throughout your school.

Points 5

Green Gatherings and Events

Make your next school event or meeting green by going waste-free and incorporating eco-friendly practices!

Points 5

Divert Textile Waste - Curriculum Info

Science: Examine the carbon footprint and climate impacts of the clothing industry.

Social Sciences: Use fashion as a lens to examine local and global social, economic, and environmental issues. Discuss the global inequalities in the fashion supply chain in developing countries.

Business: What are the ethical, social, and environmental responsibilities of the fashion industry?

Conduct a Waste Audit - Curriculum Info

Science: Assess how the production, use, and disposal of raw materials and manufactured products affects individuals, society, and the environment. How can we change our behaviour to produce less waste?

Mathematics: Gather 24 hours of waste and estimate its weight and composition. Conduct a waste audit and calculate the percent composition of the waste. What percentage is garbage, recycling, and organics? Create corresponding graphs. Calculate the amount of waste material per student, per school year.

Green Gatherings and Events - Curriculum Info

Family Studies: How can you make family gatherings green? What kinds of planning or conversations would you need to have with your family members before the gathering?

Hospitality and Tourism: Select a popular event or attraction and identify ways of reducing the harmful effects it has on the environment. Create a plan that would encourage event attendees to go green. What are examples of successful green events?

Business: Design a business plan using a low-waste model. From marketing to product and service delivery, what steps can you take to reduce the impact of this business on the environment? What are the benefits and disadvantages of going low or no-waste for this business?

GOOS Paper - Curriculum Info

Science: Explore the life cycle of paper and determine how to close the loop.

Art: Create GOOS paper bins and corresponding posters to communicate the importance of reducing, reusing, and recycling paper.

Geography: Investigate the impact of resource use, specifically forest harvesting, in Canada. Assess ways of preserving forests and reducing the environmental impacts of the forestry industry and paper production.

Recycle Personal Electronic Waste

Collect electronic waste (e-waste) from your school community and ensure items get properly reused and recycled.

Points 5

Reduce Your Food Waste

Get your school ready to reduce avoidable food waste through an awareness campaign and school-wide pledge.

Points 5

Repurposing and Innovative Recycling

Recycle, repurpose, or repair items that are not recyclable through the regular recycling stream and help to divert waste from the landfill.

Points 5

Sort Your Waste

Track and reduce contamination in your garbage and recycling bins, raise awareness, and establish an effective waste sorting program.

Points 10

Reduce Your Food Waste - Curriculum Info

Social Sciences and Humanities: Learn about food practices across the world that help to reduce food waste.

Business: Research different business models and services that are taking action to reduce food waste. Identify possible opportunities for a school-based or student-run business that helps to address the issue of food waste. Demonstrate correct procedures and best practices for storing, rotating, and maintaining food inventory to help reduce food waste. Explain the need for promoting environmental practices in the hospitality sector.

Recycle Personal Electronic Waste - Curriculum Info

Mathematics: Compare the weight of all e-waste collected during your action to the weight of something fun like a backpack or a pet! What can we learn from these measurements?

Design and Technological Studies: Explore the life cycle of your favourite piece of technology. What product qualities are important to ensure proper recycling of e-waste? What happens to the recycled e-waste parts?

Media Studies: How often do you need to replace technology? Explore the role of media, media literacy, and planned obsolescence in the role of replacing personal technology.

Sort Your Waste - Curriculum Info

Science: Explore the lifecycle of different waste items to uncover the environmental impact of material extraction, production, and disposal. Have students investigate and propose solutions to reduce the impact of these items and to close the loop.

Mathematics: As you monitor waste sorting practices at your school, start graphing success rates.

Social Sciences and Humanities: Formulate a research question about waste generation and disposal at your school. Using appropriate social science research and inquiry methods, create research plans to investigate your topic.

Repurposing and Innovative Recycling - Curriculum Info

Art: Study art made from different items and make your own upcycled art.

Civics: Some governments have passed laws ensuring items such as tires and mattresses are returned to companies for repurposing and recycling rather than taken to landfill or placed in regular recycling bins. These efforts are often referred to as Product Stewardship programs. Explore programs in your region and discuss why certain products are selected, the effectiveness of the programs and whether they should be expanded or not.

Business: Explore how repurposing and innovative recycling contribute to a circular economy. Have students create a business case for, or against, this model.

Vermicomposting and School-Based Composting

Get your hands dirty and turn your food scraps into nutrient-rich soil.

Points 10

Waste-Free Lunch

Reduce your school's waste by encouraging students and staff to bring waste-free lunches!

Points 10

Heating & Cooling

Optimize heating and cooling systems at your school through data collection, communication, and monitoring.

Points 5

School Energy Footprint

Investigate your school's energy consumption to help understand your building's carbon footprint.

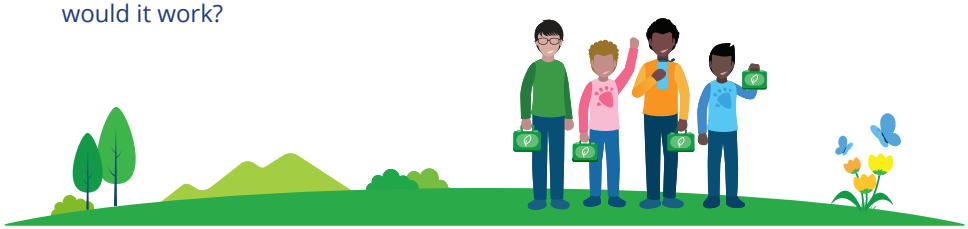
Points 10

Waste-Free Lunch - Curriculum Info

Mathematics: Tally the number of disposable food packages your class generates in one day. Have fun with the numbers. Calculate this number for all students in the school, in your city, and province. Multiply that by the number of days in the school year. Talk about the difference we can make as individuals and collectively.

Art: Design posters to promote a Waste-Free Lunch campaign. or make stylish and reusable packages for food, like fabric bags and napkins.

Family studies: Discuss ways to reduce or eliminate lunch waste at school. Have students design their own lunch program to reduce waste. How would it work?



Vermicomposting and School-Based Composting - Curriculum Info

Civics: Have a class discussion about your city/region's composting program and how it works. If there is no municipal composting program, explore why not and research programs from other cities.

Science: What is happening in a compost bin or vermicompost? What is breaking down the food waste, and what does it turn into? Make a hypothesis for how food waste decomposes, and analyze the cycling of matter and flow of energy in aerobic and anaerobic conditions with your compost bins. Learn how your school's composting program works including inputs, processing, and outputs. Explore the roles and relationships of different decomposers.

School Energy Footprint - Curriculum Info

Social Sciences and Humanities: Consider the ecological, social, and economic consequences of electricity generated from various sources and distinguish between renewable and non–renewable sources.

Science: Have students help track and record your school's monthly energy consumption and discuss why some months have lower or higher consumption than others.

Heating & Cooling - Curriculum Info

Science: Learn about heat as a form of energy and how it exists in everyday life. Assess the environmental benefits of technologies that reduce heat loss or transfer in buildings (e.g., building insulation, green roofs, etc.). Design a school building that uses energy efficiently.

Design & Technological Studies: Identify and discuss solutions that have been developed to address environmental concerns, in the area of energy technology (e.g., solar cells, wind turbines, geothermal energy). What are the social, environmental, and economic factors that influence the development and use of these technologies?

Media Studies: Produce a social media campaign to promote energy conservation practices at school and at home.

Switch Off Lights and Devices

Conserve energy by turning off lights, monitors, and other electronics when they are not needed!

Points 5

WWF Earth Hour

Switch off your lights and make noise for the Earth Hour movement.

Points 5

WWF National Sweater Day

Our planet is getting hotter. Your school can help by turning down the heat on National Sweater Day.

Points 5

Active and Sustainable School Travel

Run a campaign to encourage low-carbon transportation options such as walking, cycling, busing, and carpooling to school.

Points 10

WWF Earth Hour - Curriculum Info

Geography: Investigate the impact of Earth Hour and electricity use across Canada. What sectors use the most energy and how can they decrease their environmental impact?

Languages: Inform others about Earth Hour and how to get involved by creating a poster, announcement, or letter home.

Switch Off Lights and Devices - Curriculum Info

Science: Research opportunities for reducing electricity consumption at home or at school. Determine what kind of equipment uses the most energy and strategize ways to reduce the energy from these sources.

Design and Technological Studies: Examine energy efficiency and what measures can be implemented to make a device more energy efficient.

Art: Create various types of artwork to remind people to power-down and turn-off lights and electronics when they are not in use.

Active and Sustainable School Travel - Curriculum Info

Mathematics: Survey your school or class, then calculate the percentages for each transportation-type.

Languages: Write informative letters to parents, guardians, and community members to share learnings about the benefits of active and sustainable transportation.

Geography: Explore how transportation options influence community development and spatial distribution of people or resources.

WWF National Sweater Day - Curriculum Info

Science: Explore the science of heat transfer. How do sweaters keep us warm? Which materials are best at trapping heat?

Art: Hold a session or contest to decorate sweaters for National Sweater Day.

Eco-Friendly Foods

Reduce greenhouse gas emissions and increase food sustainability by cooking, eating, and learning about eco-friendly food.

Points 5

Idle-Free Zone

Breathe clean air and reduce air pollution by promoting Idle-Free Zones at your school and in your community!

Points 10

Grow a Food Garden

Get your hands dirty, grow food for your community, and learn about plants, ecosystems, and nutrition in an outdoor food garden.

Points 10

Track School Transportation Emissions

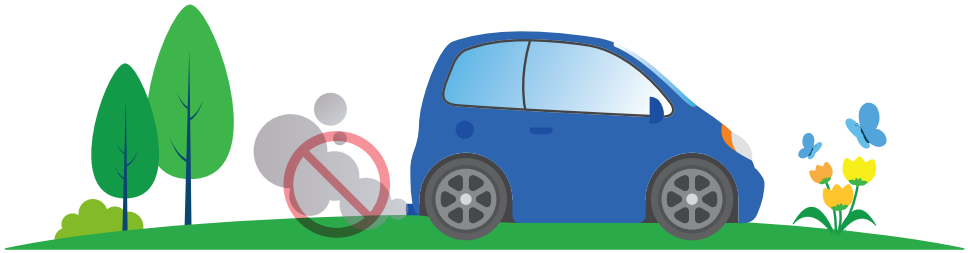
Track how staff and students travel to and from school to better understand transportation-related GHG emissions and the transportation options you have.

Points 10

Idle-Free Zone - Curriculum Info

Languages: Write persuasive letters to parents and guardians to stop idling. Alternatively, create informative pamphlets to hand to drivers.

Science/Mathematics: Track the make and model of idling cars and calculate the idling fuel-use and CO_2 emissions to determine the quantities of emissions being released into the air by idling cars in your school.



Eco-Friendly Foods - Curriculum Info

History: Research the history of food and agriculture in Canada. When was agriculture first introduced? What impact did it have on the environment and Indigenous communities?

Family Studies: Create an eco-friendly meal that aligns with your family's preferred choices, cultural or traditional foods, and habits.

Science: Discuss the benefits of plant-based foods on health and the environment. Explore the connection between nutrition, climate change, and land and water use.

Track School Transportation Emissions - Curriculum Info

Mathematics: Survey your school or sample groups to find out how everyone gets to school; calculate percentages!

Languages: Write informative letters to parents, guardians, and community members to share learnings from the school transportation survey.

Design and Technological Studies: Explore the evolution of transportation technology—from the combustion engine to electric vehicles.

Grow a Food Garden - Curriculum Info

Science: Research what plants need to grow and thrive. Examine the biodiversity that your garden attracts.

Social Sciences: Explore the benefits and disadvantages of local food production, food systems, and distribution. Examine the distribution of food crops in Canada. What foods commonly grow across Canada? What foods are best suited for your region?

Design & Technological Studies: Design and test growing systems, and gain hands-on skills, and explore tools and technologies.

Zero-Emission Vehicles and Low-Carbon Driving

Explore how zero-emission vehicles and low-carbon driving can contribute to a more sustainable future.

Points 5

Create Your Own Action

Do you have a plan for an action that doesn't quite fit? Let us know all about it!

Points 5

This action can be connected to multiple or all SDGs.

Earth Day

Earth Day is celebrated annually on April 22nd. Engage in collective action to support climate change resilience, biodiversity, and ecosystems.

Points 5

This action can be connected to multiple or all SDGs.

EcoCode

An EcoCode is your school's environmental mission statement or pledge that demonstrates your commitment to environmental learning and climate action.

Points 5

This action can be connected to multiple or all SDGs.

Create Your Own Action

What are the criteria for engaging in EcoSchools actions?

Before you begin implementing any action, make sure to review the following criteria:

Do no harm. Consider if this action may unintentionally hurt other people, animals, or environments.

Leave it better than how you found it. For example: pick-up litter, remove invasive species, make less waste.

Environmental connection. Ensure there is a clear connection to the environment and sustainability. This may include one or more of the following:

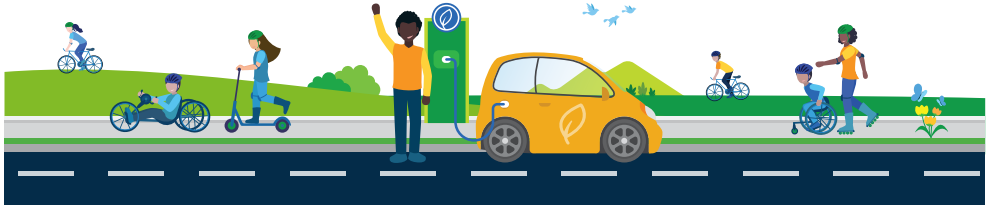
- Maintaining social and ecological integrity
- Ensuring resource efficiency and maintenance
- Pursuing equity within, and between, generations
- Mitigating and preventing environmental issues

Zero-Emission Vehicles and Low-Carbon Driving - Curriculum Info

Sciences: Follow scientific and safety protocols to demonstrate and/or conduct experiments about how different types of batteries work, and the role of lithium-ion batteries in zero-emission vehicles.

Mathematics: Practice arithmetic skills by planning a trip in a zero-emission vehicle. Calculate the distance between various locations, electric range of the vehicle, and travel time.

Civics: Explore what policies are in place in your province/territory to encourage the use of zero-emission vehicles, and the industries, civil society organizations, and/or governments that are involved.

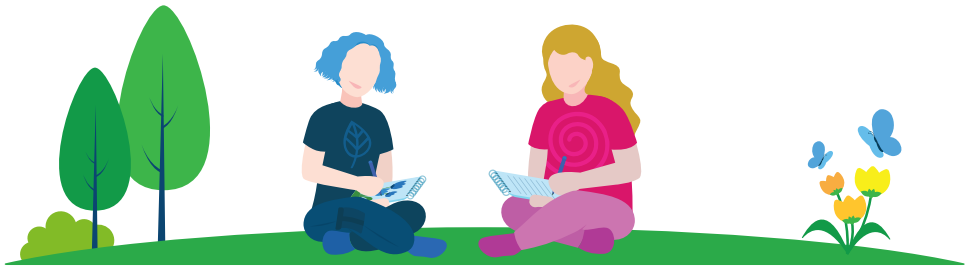


EcoCode - Curriculum Info

Languages: Consider writing your EcoCode as a limerick, sonnet, or acrostic poem.

Arts: Turn your EcoCode into a theater piece, song, video, or mural.

Civics: Research different environmental policies in your region. How are policies made by different levels of government in Canada (federal, provincial or municipal)? Based on your research, establish your school's EcoCode.



Earth Day - Curriculum Info

Languages: Have students read about Earth Day, or about a particular environmental issue that you are focusing on for Earth Day. Have students write pledges or a short essay on the topic.

History: Research the history of Earth Day. What has been accomplished as a result of Earth Day? What has changed since Earth Day was first established?

Environmental Fair or Conference

Organize an environmental learning event for your school or broader community.

Points 5

This action can be connected to multiple or all SDGs.

Environmental Literacy

Deepen environmental literacy by providing opportunities for all students at your school to learn IN, ABOUT, FOR, and FROM the environment.

Points 10

This action can be connected to multiple or all SDGs.

Getting Started

Start your year by building a strong EcoTeam, reflecting on student interests and community needs, then making an action plan for success!

Points 5

This action can be connected to multiple or all SDGs.

School to School Connections

Collaborate with another EcoSchool to strengthen leadership and environmental impact in school communities across the country.

Points 10

Environmental Literacy - Curriculum Info

Environmental learning can be integrated across all grades and subject areas. The curricular objectives addressed by completing this action will vary based upon your approach.

Environmental Fair or Conference - Curriculum Info

Science: Research an environmental issue and create an experiment or display on the topic to share at your Environmental Fair or Conference.

Languages/Media Studies/Arts: Create a presentation (slide, video, photo, speech) on an environmental topic to share at your Environmental Fair or Conference.

School to School Connections - Curriculum Info

Curricular objectives will vary based upon approach and the collaborative efforts that occur throughout the year. This may include:

Knowledge Sharing: Exchange valuable insights, ideas, and tips for implementing environmental initiatives in your schools.

Showcase Achievements: Highlight both successes and challenges from your previous year's participation in the EcoSchools programs.

Joint Action Planning: Collaboratively plan actions by utilizing resources like the EcoSchools Annual Calendar and Action Library.

Getting Started - Curriculum Info

Social Sciences and Humanities: Use a SWOT analysis or similar assessment tool to review previous EcoSchools actions and make a plan for continued success.

Civics: Learn about democratic processes and practice collective decision-making strategies with the EcoTeam to make your Action Plan.

Staff Professional Development

Create opportunities for school staff to enhance their environmental knowledge and skills by participating in webinars, workshops, and conferences.

Points 5

This action can be connected to multiple or all SDGs.

School Water Audit

Explore how your school uses water through an audit, and implement water-saving strategies to protect this precious resource!

Points 10

School Water Footprint

Collect consumption data to investigate your school's water use and provide a baseline for success!

Points 10

The Great Gulp

Take a synchronized gulp of water to raise awareness about drinking water and the importance of reducing single-use plastic waste!

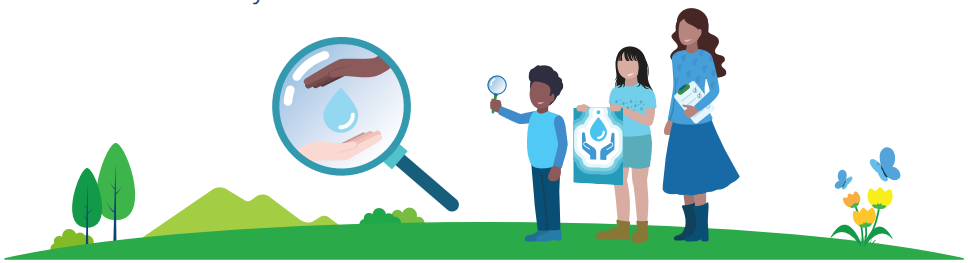
Points 5

School Water Audit - Curriculum Info

Social Sciences and Humanities: Investigate water access for different communities in your watershed to understand why access to clean water is not always equitable, and how your actions may affect water for others.

Business: Calculate the cost of water consumption and build business cases for various conservation strategies or technologies.

Design and Technological Studies: Research a technology, system, or manufacturing process that is very water-intensive and redesign for maximum water conservation. Alternatively, design a new technology or process to conserve water in your school.



Staff Professional Development

With increased environmental knowledge and skills, educators are better equipped to help students understand complex environmental issues and guide them towards environmental literacy. Staff professional development can focus on a wide array of topics (i.e., the science of climate change, strategies to teach outdoors, food literacy, etc.).

The Great Gulp - Curriculum Info

Social Sciences and Humanities: Discuss water access for different regions across Canada, with a focus on Indigenous communities. Write a policy for all Indigenous and rural communities to have access to drinking water.

Science: Investigate the life cycle of plastic bottles and the environmental impacts of the water bottle industry. Explore the urban water cycle and how drinking water arrives at your tap.

School Water Footprint - Curriculum Info

Sciences: Have students help track and record your school's monthly water consumption and discuss why some months have lower or higher consumption than others.

Social Science and Humanities: After collecting data on your school's water use, evaluate personal water consumption, compare it with personal water consumption in other countries, and propose a plan of action to reduce personal water consumption to help address water sustainability issues.