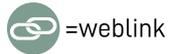




Photo credit: Ross Dunn

Living green



Help students see their world through a green lens



Do a waste audit at your school! Encourage students to do an assessment of the schools recycling/waste programs and help offer recommendations for improvement. Take this into the community by connecting and working with local youth groups.



Start an environmental club at your school! It's a great way to get engaged in hands-on activities to increase environmental awareness and encourage stewardship in your local community. To start a club:

STEP 1: Make sure at least four or five other students are interested in forming an environmental club

STEP 2: Find a teacher who is willing to serve as a sponsor. The teacher's role is to provide advice along the way and to help ensure the group's stability from year to year.

STEP 3: Arrange with the principal and administration for permission to start the club.

STEP 4: Arrange a venue, a suitable day of the week and time for meetings

STEP 5: Choose one group-oriented, year long project that has measurable benefits to the school or community and come up with a weekly or monthly action plan for how to achieve it.



Living green



Children can encourage their families to go green! The living planet needs our help, and we need everyone on board. Being on a team can make many of us more effective.

First, have the children spend time learning some tips on how to reduce their impact:



10 things you can do about climate change



How to go zero waste



Recycle less



Make your own non-toxic products

Try the steps below to host an effective family meeting. Be open to the idea that things will turn out better than planned!

STEP 1: Encourage students to tell their parents about [The Flight of the Hummingbird](#) and the message, "I do what I can." Discussing the school activities can be a great segue into their goals of making changes at home.

STEP 2: Children can ask each family member to contribute at least one new house rule to help go green. No rule is too small or too big. (The solutions they already have will surprise you.) Write the rules down on sticky notes.

STEP 3: Dates should be set for new house rule implementation. (Consider offering a prize or incentive.)

STEP 4: Post the sticky notes on a dedicated wall or bulletin board for all to see.



CHALLENGE:

Who can save the most water? Whose house rule most reduced the power bill? Relatives and neighbours can be invited to play along and build team spirit.

Living green



Children can join a local beach or neighbourhood cleanup! The following websites are great places to start. They host beach cleanups throughout the year.



Surfrider Vancouver Island



Surfrider Vancouver

Don't see any in your area? Lead your own via:



The Great Canadian Shoreline Cleanup

Alternatively, choose an area in your community that you think needs some care, grab some garbage bags and gloves and get cleaning!

Share and inspire others

Inspire other teachers and their students by documenting your activities and sending them to the David Suzuki Foundation. Pictures, drawings, videos and students' written work will help share the do what you can message across Canada!

For more information, visit david Suzuki.org or follow us:

