



# GreenKids

## ***10 Ways to Green Up Your Elementary Classroom***

### **Energy Conservation**

*Eighty percent of the earth's pollution is generated by energy consumption.*

- 1. Assign a *Power Ranger* for your classroom.**
- 2. Turn the lights off when the sun shines.**
- 3. Shut down monitors, power bars, printers, and room lights when not in use.**

### **Water Conservation**

*Less than 3% of the earth's water is fresh water. The average American **individual** uses 150 gallons of water each day. The average African **family** uses 5 gallons of water a day.*

- 4. Turn off faucet while you soap your hands during hand washing.**

### **Solid Waste Reduction**

*The U.S. is the number one trash-producing country in the world. Americans produce 1,609 pounds of trash per person per year. This means that 5% of the world's people generate 40% of the world's waste.*

- 5. Assign a *Recycling Detective* for your classroom.**
- 6. Write on scrap paper.**
- 7. Separate packaging to maximize recycling.**
- 8. Drink from a refillable water bottle.**
- 9. Reuse containers.**
- 10. Carry a green bag.**

***Model ☆ Narrate ☆ Encourage***



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## ***10 Ways to Green Up Your Instruction***

### **All Subjects**

**1. Use environmental issues to unify studies across all curriculum areas.**

*Take students into the children's garden to; measure perimeter and area. Read poetry about gardens. Study Native American gardening practices. Learn about plant structure and function.*

### **Reading/Language Arts**

**2. Let outdoor spaces like the Nature Trail to inspire nature poetry writing.**

**3. Assign fiction reading with environmental themes.**

*Just a Dream* by Chris Van Allsburg

*Judy Moody Saves the World* by Meagan McDonald

*Flush* by Carl Hiassan

### **Mathematics**

**4. Head outside for hands-on measurement.**

**5. Practice counting and estimating using objects in nature.**

*Count the trees in the front of the school.*

*Estimate how many leaves are on a tree.*

### **Science**

**6. Gather data from the natural world.**

*How many plants can you find in one square foot of earth?*

### **Social Studies**

**7. Study the transportation patterns of your community for energy efficiency.**

*Count how many cars drive by with only one person in them.*

*Count how many people ride by on a bus.*

### **Writing**

**8. Stimulate journal writing by taking trips outside.**

**9. Practice persuasive writing about environmental issues.**

### **Citizenship**

**10. Lead a trash pick up on school grounds.**