



GreenKids

10 Ways to Green Up Your Middle School and High School Classroom

Energy Conservation

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

Web support: <http://www.climatecrisis.net/takeaction/whatyoucando/>

- 1. Assign an *energy monitor* 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

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

Web support: <http://ga.water.usgs.gov/edu/msac.html>

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

Solid Waste Reduction

Fact: *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.*

Web support: <http://156.98.19.245/school/index.html>

- 5. Assign a *recycling monitor* 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***

10 Ways to Green Up Your Instruction

All Subjects

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

Project: Have students take the *Carbon Challenge*. Tie together mathematics, science, natural resources and writing projects.

Web support: <http://www.carbonfootprint.com/USA/calculator.html>

Reading/Writing/Language Arts

- 2. Let outdoor spaces inspire poetry, creative writing and persuasive writing.**

- 3. Assign fiction and non-fiction with environmental themes.**

Project: Have students enter the *River of Words* poetry contest.

Web support: <http://www.watersheds.org/row/teacher.htm>

Mathematics

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

- 5. Make plots, graphs and charts of data about natural phenomena.**

Project: Try out *Skymath*, a project for middle school students to use real-world environmental data to identify patterns and mathematical relationships.

Web support: <http://www.eo.ucar.edu/skymath/>

Science

- 6. Use data from the natural world to apply science concepts.**

- 7. Use nature to provide hands on experiences with topics of study.**

Project: Have students solve an *Enviromystery*.

Web support: <http://enviromysteries.thinkport.org/>

Social Studies

- 8. Compare transportation patterns of different cultures for energy efficiency.**

- 9. Debate the ethics of natural resource use by different countries.**

Project: Have students research and debate *Marine Protected Areas*.

Web support: <http://www.nationalgeographic.com/xpeditions/lessons/16/g68/>

Citizenship

- 10. Students identify a local environmental issue and work out ways to solve it.**



***For assistance with these projects, e-mail Lisa Alexander
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