

LET'S go green

Rally your friends
to reduce waste.

Theme

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

SDG Connection CLIMATE HEALTH**Skills**

-  REFLECTION: APPLYING NEW KNOWLEDGE
-  ARGUMENT FORMATION: INFORMATION GATHERING
-  LEADERSHIP SKILLS: TEAM BUILDING
-  SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL LEARNING: ETHICAL RESPONSIBILITY

AN INITIATIVE OF

EDUCATION+

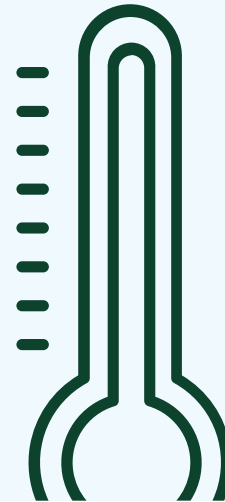
Purpose + Sustainability = Change

When we go green together, anything is possible! Whether it's taking a sustainability pledge to reduce plastic waste or starting a garden at your school or in your community, you have the power to create a greener world for everyone to enjoy.

Watch your actions today lead to incredible transformations tomorrow with Let's Go Green. Make an even bigger, greener impact by getting everyone you know involved!

FACT:

To limit global warming to 1.5°C, global carbon emissions need to fall by a staggering 45 percent from 2010 levels by 2030.



Campaign in Action

Who needs fast fashion when you can have free fashion? Stella Korins started the Trinity Thrift at her school where students can “shop” clothes that have been donated by other students. Donated clothes are washed, sorted, and even revamped in the Trinity Thrift. Best of all, this school thrift system helps the environment by encouraging students to get their new clothing from the thrift and avoid supporting fast fashion.

Ways to Take Action

From local littering to global warming, there are so many ways to positively impact our environment!



Types of Service

Choose the type that works best for you!

DIRECT

Direct service involves getting hands on with the project in person with those you are serving. For example:

- Build a pollinator garden on your school campus.

INDIRECT

Indirect service involves helping from a distance through material collection or donations. For example:

- Hold a fundraiser to donate to organizations that are helping alleviate global warming.

ADVOCACY

Advocacy involves taking what you've learned about an issue and spreading that knowledge to others. For example:

- Organizing a social media campaign or podcast teaching others about environmental issues.

Suggestions by Grade Level

GRADES 4–6

- Organize a garbage pickup walk at the school or nearby park. Get family and friends to pledge a dollar amount for every pound of garbage collected.
- Take an online sustainability pledge with your classmates. Spread the word to different classes around you to get the whole school on board!
- There are so many cute options out there for reusable products—invest in a water bottle or food containers to keep your lunch litter-free!

GRADES 7–8

- Make your own beeswax wrap using a few simple sustainable ingredients! Start up a lunchtime craft show, where you sell your wraps and donate the proceeds to a green cause of your choosing.
- Engage your class in a zero-waste week! Put one garbage bag in the center of the room and see how much you can avoid filling it by the end of the week, using waste-free strategies in your classroom.

GRADES 9–12

- Put your scientific investigation skills to work to learn more about energy conservation and what you can do to improve your energy usage on a daily basis. Share your findings with your classmates and challenge your friends to do the same!
- Start a school eco-club and run different green initiatives throughout the year. For example, in the winter, host a "sweater weather" day to allow the heat to be reduced in your school.

Step 1: Investigate and Learn

Start here to learn about issues relating to the environment on a local, or even global level.

Learning Goals:

- Demonstrate the ability to conduct research to investigate and analyze social issues.
- Gain a comprehensive understanding of the social issue, including historical background, current manifestations, and key populations involved.
- Understand existing solutions put in place for the social issue and the effectiveness and/or limitations of these solutions.
- Consider what can be done to further improve solutions to the social issue using critical thinking and collaborative learning.

STEP 1: Investigate and Learn

CHECKLIST

- ☐ Check out the Environment Issue Card
- ☐ Visit educationplus.org for additional resources
- ☐ Conduct any additional research
- ☐ Complete Step 1: Investigate and Learn page
- ☐ Complete Step 2: Action Plan page
- ☐ Take Action by implementing your project!
- ☐ Reflect by completing Step 3: Take Action page
- ☐ Wrap up by completing Step 4: Report and Celebrate page!
- ☐ Share on social media with [#EducationPlus](#)



Community Mapping

Use the chart below as you take a walk. Look for signs of issues that have negative impacts (e.g., lack of recycling bins or overuse of electricity). Do you notice any obvious improvements you can make to your school or community?

Issues	Solutions

As you Investigate, Record what you Learn:

Which environmental issue would you like to focus on? Why? _____

Why is addressing this topic important? _____

What issues exist in your school or community (local or globally) concerning this topic? _____

What actions have organizations or people taken to address these issues? _____

What can you do as an individual or group to tackle this issue? _____

Step 2: Action Plan

Step 2 will walk you through the planning process of your service-learning project. Be sure to work together - allow for everyone to have a voice at the table!

Learning Goals:

- Identify how you want to take action for your chosen social issue.
- Clearly define goals and objectives for your service-learning project and how you plan to achieve them.
- Create a realistic timeline for your service-learning project, including outlining your sequence of tasks.
- Build collaboration skills by assigning roles, communicating effectively and positively, and maintaining motivation.
- Effectively manage resources, such as planning for material collection, creating a budget, or gathering human resources for your service-learning project.

STEP 2: Action Plan

To help set yourself and your team up for success, start off by clarifying your plan for your project and setting your goals for your project.

SET YOUR GOALS

What issue are you taking action on? _____

How are you going to take action? _____

When will your action take place? _____

How will you encourage people to participate? _____

How will you measure your impact or success? _____

Create your Timeline or Steps

Create a timeline to help plan your actions! Plot the steps your group will take to gear up for your actions around the school or community.

1. _____

6. _____

2. _____

7. _____

3. _____

8. _____

4. _____

9. _____

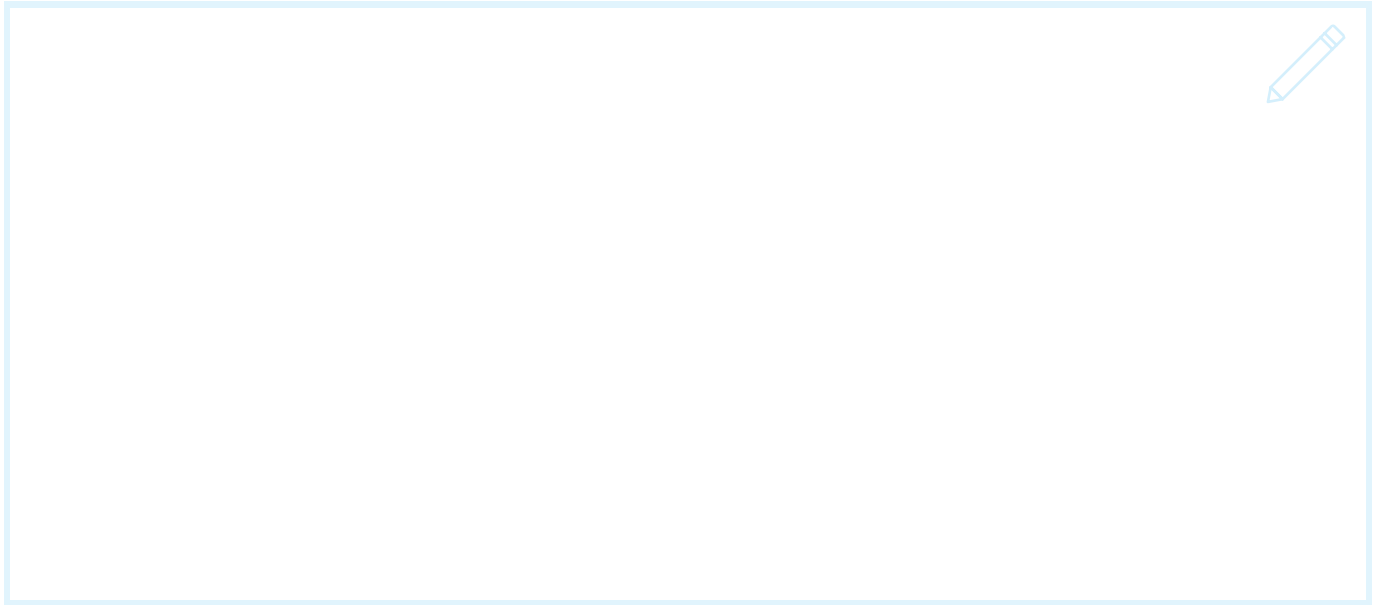
5. _____

10. _____

STEP 2: Action Plan Continued

Materials and Budget List

What supplies will you need? How much will the supplies cost?



Assign Roles

Think about everyone's individual strengths and passions to decide who in your group will be responsible for each task!

Task	Group Member(s) Responsible
ex. Collecting materials	

Step 3: Take Action

Now that you've learned about the social issue and you've planned your service-learning project, it's time to make it happen! Use this section after you're done to help you reflect on your experience.

Learning Goals:

During your service project:

- Gain a deeper understanding of the needs of your community and how you can make a difference.
- Organize and execute tasks effectively and efficiently.
- Build and maintain positive relationships with members of your community.
- Develop further skills in active listening, positive communication, and showing compassion to others.

Reflecting on your service project:

- Reflect on the importance of taking action on your chosen social issue.
- Analyze the project implementation, determine what went well and what could be improved.
- Evaluate your own learning, both about the social issue and the learning that came from the service-learning experience.
- Consider how you can continue to impact change.

STEP 3: Take Action

Whether it's recycling just one plastic bottle or planting 100 seeds, every action contributes to a better and healthier world. So go ahead and take action and when you're done, this page will help you soak all the goodness in.

Tip: Come up with a fun challenge to get more people involved. Think of a catchy name (e.g., #GoGoGreenTeam) and spread the word!

    Don't forget to share your pictures, progress and success on social media with [#EducationPlus](#).

Reflect

What are some things you learned about your chosen issue? _____

How did your plan go? Did you run into any challenges? Is there anything you would do differently?

What did you learn about others through this experience? _____

What did you learn about yourself through this experience? _____

How did it feel to help make an impact? _____

How will you continue to raise awareness or make a further impact on this issue? _____

Step 4: Report and Celebrate

Now that you've learned about the social issue and you've planned your service-learning project, it's time to make it happen! Use this section after you're done to help you reflect on your experience.

Learning Goals:

- Gather facts and figures about your service-learning project to share with others.
- Determine how you would like to share about your service-learning project with your school and community.
- Express gratitude towards all involved in the success of your project.
- Celebrate your personal and collaborative achievements together!

STEP 4: Report and Celebrate

Report

1. How many people participated in the Let's Go Green campaign? _____
2. How many people did you impact through your campaign? _____
3. What other measurable data or outcomes can you report? _____

4. Sharing about your project is so important and can inspire more action! How can you spread the word to others? _____

5. List key points from each step of the service-learning process you want to be sure to share with others:

1. Investigate and Learn:

3. Take Action:

2. Action Plan:

4. Report and Celebrate:

Celebrate

While sharing with others is part of celebrating, be sure to celebrate as a team! Use the space below to brainstorm fun ideas to celebrate and also how you'd like to thank everyone who supported your campaign. Congratulations!

HOW DO YOU WANT TO CELEBRATE?



We love to hear your stories! Feel free to share with us at info@educationplus.org!

Additional Resources

Use the following resources to help you during your service-learning process.

Pledge Badges

Use these pledge badges to showcase your commitment to reducing plastic waste. Collect digital pledges via Microsoft Forms or social media!

LET'S go 
green

I PLEDGE TO:

SIGNED:

LET'S go 
green

I PLEDGE TO:

SIGNED:

Social Media Graphics

Only 9% of plastic trash is recycled in the U.S.

LET'S go green



More than 1 million seabirds and 100,000 sea mammals are killed by pollution every year

LET'S go green



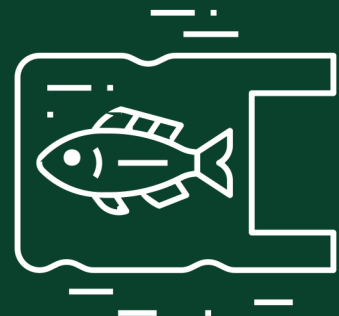
According to the Green Schools Alliance, Americans generate 30 billion foam cups, 220 million tires, and 1.8 billion disposable diapers every year

LET'S go green



The United States produces 30% of the world's waste and uses 25% of the world's natural resources

LET'S go green



Find More Online

Visit educationplus.org for more resources on environmentalism and other social issue topics. Plus, don't forget to share these on social media with [#EducationPlus](https://twitter.com/EducationPlus).