

## **Green Schools Tips and Resources**

### **National Green Schools Initiatives and Programs**

Center for Green Schools

<http://www.centerforgreenschools.org/home.aspx>

Green Apple Day of Service – September 29, 2014

<http://mygreenapple.org/>

A National Action Plan for Educating for Sustainability

<http://centerforgreenschools.org/nationalactionplan.aspx>

The Collaborative for High Performance Schools (CHPS)

[www.chps.net](http://www.chps.net)

Green Ribbon Schools

<http://www2.ed.gov/programs/green-ribbon-schools/index.html>

Green Schools Initiative

<http://www.greenschools.net/>

NWF – Eco Schools

<http://www.nwf.org/eco-schools-usa.aspx>

### **General Environmental Education**

City of San Diego

<http://www.sandiego.gov/environmental-services/energy/kids/index.shtml>

Environmental Education Initiative, Cal EPA

<http://www.calepa.ca.gov/education/eei/Curriculum/>

NOAA Educator Resources

Url: <http://www.education.noaa.gov>

Scholastic Freebie Corner

Url: <http://www.scholastic.com/freebiecorner>

SDSA

<http://sdsa.org/>

TED ED

Url: <http://ed.ted.com>

Teacher Education Network  
Url: <http://ten.discoverycube.org>

## Zero Waste Lunch

1. Start with lunch – provide whole school education to parents and students.
2. Provide incentives and resources.
3. Get a benchmark. Find out how much trash each day/week. Then challenge group to reduce it.
4. Start evaluating by classrooms/grade levels if possible.
5. Train volunteers, staff and students for support during lunch.
6. Celebrate the achievements.
7. Reengage when things need a tune-up.

## Resources

Grades of Green – zero waste lunch ideas for schools  
<http://www.gradesofgreen.org/>

Tips for Zero Waste Lunches  
<http://www.wastefreelunches.org/index.html>

Solana Center – Composting basics, resources and more  
<http://www.solanacenter.org/composting>

Cornell University – School waste support  
<http://compost.css.cornell.edu/schools.html>

EDCO  
<http://www.edcodisposal.com/corporate/edco-for-kids/>

Waste Management  
<http://www.wm.com/enterprise/k-12-education/k-12-solutions/green-education-programs.jsp>

## School Gardens/Habitats

1. Start Small (seeds in classrooms, a small container, a raised bed)
2. Share curriculum to teach in the garden
3. Engage Local Resources (Master Gardeners, neighborhood garden associations, intergenerational groups, nurseries)
4. Troubleshoot (space, water, pests)
5. Get your School Administration and Staff's Support
6. Ask for everything! (volunteers, donations, work day supports, discounts)
7. Apply for grants to fund the garden

8. As the garden grows, line up volunteers to care for the garden

### **Online Resources**

San Diego Children and Nature – many local resources on their website

<http://sdchildrenandnature.org/wp/>

San Diego Master Gardeners – School Garden Support

<http://www.mastergardenerssandiego.org/schools/schools.php>

Life Lab – Garden Workshops and Resources for Teachers

<http://www.lifelab.org/>

Edible Schoolyard – Garden Resources, Lessons

<http://edibleschoolyard.org/>

Solana Center for Environmental Innovation – Composting resources

<http://www.solanacenter.org/school-recycling>

Square Foot Gardening Foundation – Mel Bartholomew’s gardening system that uses small space and simple methods to grow vegetables.

[www.squarefootgardening.org](http://www.squarefootgardening.org)

### **Watershed/Oceans**

1. Think Local – San Diego has major watersheds. Utilize local resources to educate your students.
2. Watershed/Oceans topics also align to NGSS Disciplinary Core Ideas: Life Sciences, Physical Sciences, Earth and Space Science, Engineering & Technology
3. Take a field trip. San Diego is full of places to get involved from beach clean ups, to estuary tours, to watershed visits and walking around campus to see where your run off goes. Students are engaged when they have a local connection.
4. Find your experts

### **Online Resources**

NOAA Ocean Today – Ocean and Weather Videos

<http://oceantoday.noaa.gov/>

NOAA website – Estuaries Curriculum

<http://estuaries.noaa.gov/>

5 Gyres – Plastic Pollution/ Ocean Advocacy

[http://5gyres.org/education\\_and\\_exhibits/](http://5gyres.org/education_and_exhibits/)

New science standards will engage students to DO science!

<http://www.nextgenscience.org/next-generation-science-standards>

NGSS videos

<http://www.bozemanscience.com>

San Diego Coastkeeper, Think Blue and SDUSD Project Swell Water Education and online Curriculum, science kits and professional development

<http://www.projectswell.org/>

San Diego Coastkeeper Beach Cleanup and Water Quality Monitoring Data

<http://www.sdcoastkeeper.org/>

<http://www.sdcoastkeeper.org/learn/fishable/marine-debris/data-from-san-diego-beach-cleanups.html>

<http://www.sdcoastkeeper.org/learn/swimmable/san-diego-water-quality.html>

Project WET

<http://projectwet.org/>

SDCWA

<http://www.sdcwa.org/education>

CA Regional Environmental Education Community - List of resources, EE providers, workshops and more.

<http://creec.org/>

SDCOE Splash Lab and Marine Science Floating Lab – Hands on activities

Tijuana Estuary/Border Field State Park – Field trips and education

<http://trnerr.org/education/>

## Recycling/Waste Diversion

### Campus Plan

1. Start with classroom recycling commitment
2. Make a commitment with administration and staff
3. Utilize local resources for education and support
4. Talk with district level recycling coordinator/custodial support services

### Project – Where does our trash go?

1. Questions included, what happens to trash that is not composted
2. Recycling Education Assembly
3. Fieldtrip to Urban Corp to see a sorting facility
4. Explored Tijuana Estuary and Border Field State Park for local resource
5. Trip to Rare Hare a recycled art studio
6. Small Group Research (student led topics) – landfills, recycling, marine pollution, air pollution and oil spills)

7. Project culminates with – What makes a sustainable city? Students design their own ideal.

### **Online Resources**

State of California Recycling Resources- Grants, curriculum support, education  
<http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/education/>

San Diego County Office of Education - Recycling Assemblies, Landfill Tours, and more  
<http://www.sdcoe.net/student-services/outdoored/Pages/free-outreach-programs.aspx>

City of San Diego – Recycling  
<http://www.sandiego.gov/environmental-services/recycling/>

I Love A Clean San Diego – Assemblies, education support  
<http://ilacsd.org>

Bring Your Own Bag Campaign- 500 million single use bags get used in SD with at 3% recycle rate. Get your campus involved in the BYOB campaign.  
<http://www.sandiego.gov/environmental-services/recycling/byobsd/index.shtml>

Bag it – Documentary on plastic pollution  
<http://www.bagitmovie.com/>

### **Renewable Energy**

1. Start with inquiry questions: What are natural resources? What are their uses? What are renewable and non-renewable resources?
2. Student led - Make a list of pros and cons for both renewable and non-renewable energy
3. Research 3 renewable resources: solar, wind and water
4. Use experiments to explore and demonstrate the above resources
5. Student projects develop from exploration and research

### **Online/Other Resources**

PEAK – Energy Coalition’s Energy Efficiency Education and Curriculum  
<http://www.peakstudents.org/>

CCSE – California Center for Sustainable Energy – Education and tours  
<https://energycenter.org/youth-education>

EI Education and Environment Curriculum  
<http://www.californiaeei.org/>

K12 Energy Program  
<http://www.k12e3.org/>

SDGE

<http://regarchive.sdge.com/kids/>

Read Aloud: Energy Island by Allan Drummond

## **V. Indoor Air Quality**

NEA Health Information Network

<http://www.neahin.org/health-safety/environmental/iaq-tfs-lesson-plans-k-12.html>

## **VI. Materials and Resources**

Environmental Protection Agency

[http://www.epa.gov/wastes/inforesources/pubs/educational\\_resources.htm](http://www.epa.gov/wastes/inforesources/pubs/educational_resources.htm)

Green Seal

<http://www.greenseal.org/FindGreenSealProductsAndServices.aspx>

Greenwashing Resource

<http://www.parish-supply.com/pdf/The-Sins-of-Greenwashing.pdf>