



GREEN SCHOOLS

An environmental education program of Art From Scrap

Service Learning Project Ideas

Green Schools encourages classes and students to conduct environmental service learning projects. It is best if projects focus on the local environment instead of something far away like the rain forest. Classes and students can think of a project on their own or get ideas from the list below.

Each year classes and students who conduct projects and complete the accompanying portfolios are honored as Student Environmentalist at the Santa Barbara Earth Day Festival in April. Portfolios must be turned in to Tahara Ezrahti at Art From Scrap, 302 E. Cota St., Santa Barbara, CA 93101 by April 12, 2007. Blank project portfolios can be downloaded from the environmental education page of the Art From Scrap website at: www.ArtFromScrap.org Only one portfolio is required per project, regardless of how many students worked on a project. Write only the teacher's name for class projects. If you have questions or want to discuss a project idea contact Tahara Ezrahti, Green Schools Education Coordinator, at (805) 884-0459 x 12 or enviroed@artfromscrap.org.

Watershed Projects

- **Plastic debris in the ocean project.** Conduct school or neighborhood litter clean-ups, discovering the source of littering and field-testing and implementing strategies to reduce or stop littering. Contact Tahara Ezrahti at Art From Scrap (805) 884-0459 x12 or enviroed@ArtFromScrap.org
- **Stencil storm drains on your school campus** to let others at your school know the storm drains lead to the creeks and ocean. Contact Tahara Ezrahti at Art From Scrap (805) 884-0459 x12 or enviroed@ArtFromScrap.org
- **Water Quality Testing Kits.** Teachers may borrow water quality test kits from Art From Scrap to test water quality of local creeks. Contact Tahara Ezrahti at Art From Scrap (805) 884-0459 x12 or enviroed@ArtFromScrap.org
- **Work to keep our creeks and beaches clean.** Clean-up after pets. Use compost instead of chemical fertilizers or pesticides. Pick-up litter. Plant native plants along creek beds etc.
- To participate in **Beach and Creek Clean-ups and Watershed Restoration Activities** that are already scheduled call the South County Watershed Resource Center at (805) 682-6113.

Waste Reduction Projects

- **Hold a Recycling Fundraiser for your school.** Make money by recycling aluminum cans, glass bottles, and plastic # 1 bottles that have a label for "CA Cash Refund" or "CA Redemption". **To Participate** contact: Tahara Ezrahti at 884-0459 x 12 or enviroed@artfromscrap.org. Give her your name, school, teacher's name, and grade. Deliver clean, separated aluminum cans, plastic #1 bottles and glass bottles (separated by color) to the Goleta or Santa Barbara Recycling Centers. You will receive cash for your recyclables.

Recycling Center Hours: Tuesday - Saturday from 9:00am – 4:00 pm.

SB Downtown Recycling Center is located at 725 Cacique St (805) 963-1852 x.2243.

Goleta Recycling Center is located at 20 Love Place, Goleta (off Hollister Ave. across from the Santa Barbara Airport) (805) 964-1498.

- **Increase recycling awareness at your school.** Make sure all the classrooms have recycling containers. Make sure the recycling is being collected instead of thrown away. Give presentations to students and others on recycling. Help them understand why recycling is important, how it works and what they can and can't put in the recycling containers. Make posters encouraging recycling.
- **Conduct a waste audit.** Collect your trash for a week and measure the amount and type of trash that is produced and look for ways to create less trash. The waste audit can be done at your home, school, church etc.
- **Document environmental changes you and your family have made.** List or photograph ways you and your family have become more environmentally aware. For example: Buying durable instead of disposable products. Recycling more. Reusing stuff more. Buying items made with recycled products. Buying organically grown food. Using less toxic cleaning supplies. Biking, skateboarding, walking or carpooling more often.
- **School, park or neighborhood clean-up projects.** Pick-up litter. Recycle the items that can be recycled. Measure how much litter is recyclables and how much is trash.
- **Start a compost** bin or pile for your home, school, youth group etc.
- **Environmental art projects.** Create an art project with an environmental message. Share that message with others through displaying your art work. Make recycled paper. Use reused materials in art projects. Research less toxic art supplies; use them and encourage others to use them instead of more toxic alternatives.

Gardening Projects

- **Plant a tree**
- **Start an organic garden at your house.**
- **Raise native plants for restoration projects.**
- **Save seeds from plants you have grown.**
- **Grow food for the hungry.**

Miscellaneous

- **Start an environmental club at school** to conduct on-going environmental projects
- **Make environmental posters** and place them around your school
- **Research an environmental topic** and give a presentation to your class, another class, or a group you are involved with
- **Conduct a science project** that yields useful information about the environment
- **Write an article on an environmental topic** and get it published (in the newspaper, the school newsletter, church newsletter etc.)
- **Make a video** on an environmental topic and show it to a group
- **Volunteer to work on a project with an environmental group**
- **Become an environmental lobbyist.** Call, fax, write, or email your school board, local government officials or state or federal officials about an environmental concern you have and what you want them to do about it
- **Work to reduce the amount of pesticides** used at home, at school, and in local parks
- **Work with animals** in wildlife rescue centers or animal shelters
- **Any other projects** that interest you and somehow involve the environment