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GREEN GLANCE
SD 47 Powell River
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Destination Conservation: Another Exciting Year

The Powell River School District and Destination Conservation (DC) are embarking on another exciting year of resource conservation and culture changing campaigns in Powell River schools! For the second year of Destination Conservation the focus is not only on energy conservation but also on water conservation.

In addition to learning more about energy technologies, efficient lighting and electrical equipment, this year DC teams will expand their knowledge of water technologies, HVAC systems (i.e. heating, ventilating, and air conditioning) and water conservation strategies.

One year ago, DC teams began their first round of culture

changing campaigns at schools. These campaigns included catchy slogans like the "Kickin' It Old School" campaign at James Thompson.

DC teams are comprised of a teacher champion, a parent, administrator, custodial staff, and, of course, students. These teams typically meet weekly, and over the course of the year, assess resource consumption, devise related conservation plans, implement their plans, and if all goes as planned, celebrate their school's success.

If last year's energy savings are any indication of the savings ahead, we are in for an amazing year of making a difference to the future of our community and the future of the planet.



DID YOU KNOW?

According to Natural Resources Canada, in 2003 of all the energy consumed in Canada, 30% was for the production of energy and 70% went to secondary consumers. Of that 70%, industry accounted for 38.4%, transportation 27.9%, residential 17.2, commercial and institutional 14% and agriculture 2.5%.

Music Education & Salish Sea Teacher Resources



During the first week of October, School District 47's Sustainable Schools Committee (SSC) will be hosting environmental musicians Holly Arntzen and Kevin Wright. They will be performing at all Powell River Elementary Schools as well as Oceanview Middle School.

These performances combine music education with the im-

portant theme of environmental stewardship. Through their music Holly and Kevin illustrate how music and environmental issues can be taught across the curriculum.

To accompany these performances, each school will receive a free teaching resource and associated music CD called Salish Sea (Parks Canada). In the Salish Sea resource teach-

ers can find lesson plans and reproducible worksheets. A copy of this resource will be delivered to each school staff room.

Music teachers have also been sent a rehearsal CD to work with students to learn some of Holly and Kevin's music so they can participate in the concert. On behalf of the SSC, we hope you enjoy the show!



A young woman in Guiyu, China cleans a fish amidst piles of imported electronic waste .

DID YOU KNOW?

Canadians throw out 160000 to 170000 metric tones of electronic goods per year.

That is the equivalent weight of 950 empty 747s airplanes .

—BC Environmental Statistics

Video Resource:

Ghana—Digital Dumping Ground (Go to youtube.com)

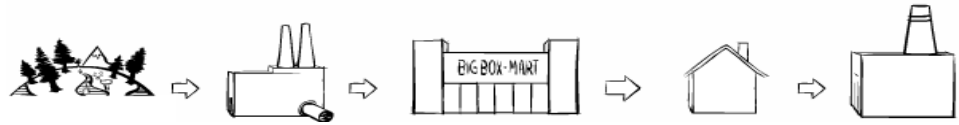


www.seppo.net

GREEN GLANCE

Best Practices: Buy, Use, Toss?

Submitted by Izi Loveluck



Students are surrounded by "stuff" - from blue jeans to the latest cell phone - in their everyday lives. With Buy, Use, Toss? A Closer Look at the Things We Buy, a comprehensive unit on consumption that is aligned with countless learning outcomes, your students will investigate the lifecycle of products as they do things such as:

1. Gain math and science skills while determining ways to reduce the carbon footprint of shipping blue jeans,

2. Engage in civic discourse during a discussion of how we dispose of our waste,

3. Develop corporate policies to protect workers and consumers, and

4. Gain media literacy skills while analyzing ads.

To download your FREE copy of Buy, Use, Toss? go to:

www.facingthefuture.org/Curriculum/BuyUseToss/tabid/469/Default.aspx

This resource, which includes a series of ten fully-planned lessons designed for grades 9-12, will lead your students through an exploration of the production and consumption of goods - a system called the materials economy. Students critically analyze the sustainability of the steps of this system, determining how consumption can benefit people, economies, and environments.

Green Tips for Schools: Putting Students and the Earth First

Is your school interested in reducing its environmental impact, improving learning conditions, improving human health, and reducing operating costs.? Below is a list of quick and easy Green Tips for consideration:

- Ride your bike, walk or take the bus to school. Invite neighbours and friends to join.
- Buy organic or local food for school events.
- Buy canvas and cardboard binders instead of plastic.
- Use biodegradable soaps wherever possible.
- Turn off lights and open the blinds.
- Use reusable containers for all food service.
- Use reusable, metal water bottles instead of disposable plastic water bottles.
- Promote the use of soy based crayons instead of petroleum based crayons.

A Happy, Healthy Planet Supports

Happy, Healthy People!

Pebble in the Pond Memberships for Schools

Over the past 4 years, many Powell River students and classes have had the honour to be involved in a Pebble in the Pond workshop. Pebble in the Pond is dedicated to the eradication of plastic in our environment. Through public education and community consultation, Pebble in the Pond is making a difference in our community and the world.

This year the Sustainable

Schools Committee (SSC) will be purchasing Pebble in the Pond Memberships for each of our district schools. These memberships, free to schools, include 3 free Pebble in the Pond workshops for each school. Stay tuned for more information on how to go about booking a workshop for your class. Your SSC representative will provide your school with an update on this in the near future.

Available Workshops:

- Introduction to the Pacific Gyre Pollution Problem
- Alternatives to Plastic
- Letter Writing Campaign Workshop
- Plastic, Chemicals, & Our Health
- Wax Sandwich Wrap
- Recycled Bag Making

There is a nominal supplies fee for the Wrap and Bag making workshops

Commuter Spotlight: Jerry Reghelin

Whose that smiley guy biking by? This month, our commuter spotlight shines on Brooks teacher Jerry Reghelin. Jerry commutes by bike for diverse reasons. For economic and environmental reasons, Jerry's family has committed to be a one-car family. In terms of health and family time, riding to work allows Jerry to integrate some exercise into his daily commute. "I find I have more energy at work when I ride. Also, the ride home allows me to de-compress and de-stress from the work day so that I arrive home to my wife and children feeling refreshed".

According to Jerry, once you build a routine, it just becomes habitual, second-nature. "Each evening I make all the school lunches and pack my panniers with my school clothes. In the

morning, I change into my riding clothes, put my lunch into my panniers, kiss everyone goodbye and hop on my bike...so easy!"

When asked about the benefits to biking to work, Jerry sites reducing his carbon footprint, improving his health, and de-stressing as the outstanding benefits. The wilderness of where we live ranks highly amongst Jerry's reasons to rise. One morning, while riding through The Cut, Jerry saw a deer slip quietly into the woods and a few hundred metres later, saw a small black bear go crashing into the woods.

"In my opinion, teachers can encourage students to ride to school by leading by example" said Jerry. Jerry also recommends new commuters to wear

reflective gear and be respectful of other commuters. "If a driver gives you lots of room or waits for you to pass before turning into an intersection or driveway, give them a friendly wave. It makes a big difference."

There are few challenges to commuting by bike in Powell River. Besides the Willingdon Hill, Jerry alludes to the weather and the darkness of the winter months as hard to ride in.

For Jerry, the special thing about commuting by bike in Powell River is the scenery; it is awesome! "I can do part of my commute on both the Willingdon Beach Trail and the Sea Walk."

Thanks for doing your part Jerry You are making a difference!

Jerry Reghelin smiles from ear to ear as he readies himself for another glorious ride from Brooks to Westview.



Farm to School: October 20, 2010

<http://www.phabc.org/modules.php?name=Farmtoschool&pa=showpage&pid=40>

Food today travels further than ever before and has more packaging and food additives than food eaten in previous generations. In this context, I often wonder if our great-grand parents would recognize what we're eating today as food?

The state of modern food poses unique problems for human health and for the environment. In response to the current culture of

food, Farm to School BC seeks to connect schools to farms in their area with the objective of serving healthy food to students, providing food and nutrition education opportunities, improving diets and supporting local farmers. On October 20, Farm to School BC is sponsoring an evening of inspiration and ideas in Powell River.

Workshop Details

Date: October 20

Where: School District 47 Office

When: 3:45-5:45

If you are interested in attending, please RSVP by October 6th to Catherine Atchison at:

Email: catherine.atchison@vch.ca

Phone: (604)886-5616

DID YOU KNOW?
More than 3/4 of the food Canadians eat is imported? According to the Canadian Food Inspection Agency, in 2009, 25 countries that ship fruits and vegetables to Canada violated Canadian pesticide standards.

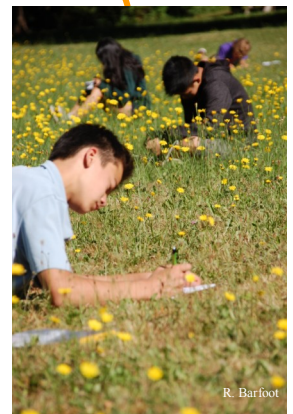
Sustainability and Ecological Education Summer Review

The Sustainability and Eco-Education Department (SEE) experienced another outstanding summer of wilderness-based learning and excellence in education. This summer, over 60 students participated in the LEAP and Sustainability Toolbox programs. With each successive year, interest in SEE programs is increasing exponentially. For the LEAP Summer 2010, SEE received over 300 applications for a mere 32 positions. Students obviously have a keen interest in outdoor learning!

Over the past four years, SEE has developed a strong relationship with post secondary institutions namely Royal Roads and Simon Fraser University. Furthermore, we have established strong, collaborative links with Science World, the Environmental Educators Provincial Specialists Association and a network of teachers and administrators across the province.

"It's so cool how one week can change your life forever.."
Miranda, Powell River

Students who participate in SEE programs come out transformed. The SEE department is proud of the work it does and looks forward to continually innovating and adapting its programs to an ever-changing world. As a department, SEE is committed to education for a better world, education that continues to highlight individual strengths, to highlight hope, and to highlight our school district and community as leaders in the area of progressive, outdoor and ecological education.



Students in the LEAP program reflect on a day in the field.



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**Sustainability and Eco-Education
Supporting students
in reinventing their world!**



The Green Glance welcomes submissions for December's newsletter.

Any specific district, school, or classroom sustainability initiative, project or idea can make a great story!

Student submissions are welcome.

Please email articles by

November 15 to:

kwestland@sd47.bc.ca

Environmental Education Workshops, Dates and Resources

Workshops & Conferences

Dates

Web Resources

OCTOBER

Workshop: Introduction to Permaculture
Where: Victoria, BC
When: October 9
More Information: <http://bit.ly/9zKB3V>

NOVEMBER

Workshop: Sustainability for Leaders (Level 1)
Where: Vancouver, BC
When: November 9-10
More Information: www.thenaturalstep.org/

Workshop: Cities Alive: Green Wall and Roof Conference
Where: Vancouver, BC
When: November 30—December 3
More Information: www.citiesalive.org

OCTOBER

International Walk to School Month
Website: www.iwalktoschool.org

National Organic Week

When: October 8-16
Website: www.organicweek.org

NOVEMBER

Universal Children's Day
When: Saturday, November 20
Website: www.un.org/depts/dhl/children_day/

Buy Nothing Day

When: November 26
Website: <http://www.media-awareness.ca/>

Ministry of Education Green Schools

Resource Title: Sustainability Course Content: a Curriculum Framework

This document is designed for secondary schools wishing to include sustainability topics in BAA courses. This framework provides topic areas and possible learning outcomes related to these topics.

Website: www.bced.gov.bc.ca/greenschools/sustcoursecontent.htm

The Green Education Foundation

This resource has excellent environmental education-related lesson plans for all age groups. Although this is an American resource, the lessons are strong and relevant to Canadian students and the Canadian classroom. Click on the *Curriculum* link at the top of the page and browse hundreds of lessons.

Website: www.greededucationfoundation.org
