

Words To Action

Grade

9

Topic: Water

Grade: 9

Duration: 70 minutes to day trip for community service project

Students will help to clean up local waterways for better community habitats and water quality

Curriculum Expectations

- BY2.03: Through investigations and applications of basic concepts select and integrate information from various sources, including electronic and print resources, community resources, and personally collected data, to answer the questions chosen (e.g., investigate the effects that ultraviolet radiation, carcinogens, water pollution, toxins, or nuclear radiation have on developing organisms)
- HE3.02D produce an evaluation of methods used by the local community to promote efficiency in energy and water use
- HE3.01P plan and conduct a survey to determine the methods used within the local community to reduce waste and conserve energy and water

Background Information

Many great community actions start with a plan. After the class becomes aware of the water issue, they may be interested in how they can help resolve the problem. Project should only be considered if they meet with the standards and policies of the school board and those of the governing body in charge of that waterway (municipal, provincial or federal). Having representatives come in to talk to the class and assist with the planning can help eliminate some of the frustration of not knowing what questions to ask during planning and help set up students for success.

Accountability

School administrators, custodians, teachers and students will be aware of where time and money could be saved by having drought tolerant species planted instead of intolerant species. Students will be able to communicate their work to the whole community.

Teacher Notes

1. Materials: garbage bags, gloves, boots, old clothes, life jackets for deep water, etc.
2. Learn all you can about the problem: interview experts or agencies on the waterways in your community to see what needs to be done
3. Set a goal for yourself: Decide what size project is big enough for your group. What do you hope to accomplish in what amount of time? Are your goals workable and realistic?
4. List the steps you will take. Inventory what skills and talents you will need to have to get the job done. What forms for the trip need to be completed for safety and supervision?
5. Involve others: Who will help with the removal of the garbage collected? Can you get food donated to feed the people doing the work? Are there bathrooms close by that people can use during the day? What Conservation Authorities and Land Stewardship Councils can be

- involved?
6. Takes the steps you have listed: Quit talking and get at it!
 7. Evaluate the results: Did the plan work? What goals did you achieve? What would you do differently next time? What report can you leave as a legacy for the next group of grade 9 to challenge them to do better?

Home Extension

How could you clean up your act around your own house and yard?

Lesson Comments

What did your students find?

Who did they tell?

What creative plans did they come up with?