

ENVIRONMENT - 'TOP TIPS' FOR TEACHERS: easy ways to make a difference

	<p>1. Make sure everything that can be recycled at school, is recycled... Re-use envelopes and file folders. Don't use disposable cups, bring reusable mugs. Save and reuse whatever packaging material you can, e.g. from school deliveries.</p>
	<p>2. ENERGY - Check that your school has proper insulation and doesn't waste energy... Employ classroom monitors to make sure lights are switched off and doors / windows closed at the end of the day.</p>
	<p>3. Ask the children what they would like to change or improve about their school+ its grounds. Form an 'Environment Action Team' (teachers, pupils, parents and governors) - get everyone pulling in the same direction.</p>
	<p>4. Register your school with the Eco-Schools programme - work towards gaining an award for your school. www.eco-schools.org.uk</p>
	<p>5. See what funding you can apply for to help you improve your school grounds -e.g. plant trees / create habitats to investigate during science lessons. Check out the resources available on the 'Environmental Education' web-page at: http://extendedschools.hackney.lgfl.net</p>
	<p>6. Lead the way by setting a good example. Cycle to school if you can. Do you drive? Car pool with colleagues if possible. Be active in your school - Encourage your students to think about environmental issues and to take their own steps to help (see - 'Top Tips for children')</p>
	<p>7. Go on field trips to local green spaces. Teach children to respect nature & the environment. Help them plant a tree or build a bird house. Buy them a nature book or a subscription to a wildlife magazine. Set-up or run an after-school gardening / environmental club.</p>
	<p>8. Grow plants in your classroom - learn about where our food comes from. Plant trees and shrubs that birds will like. Put a bird feeder outside your class window.</p>
	<p>9. Get a wormery - compost that kitchen waste + learn about decomposition at the same time.</p>
	<p>10. WASTE - 'Refuse to rubbish'. Monitor and work to reduce the amount of rubbish that gets put in the school bins - set class challenges ... Make sure that water isn't wasted... </p>
	<p>11. Turn on PCs and printers only when needed and turn them off when not in use (don't leave monitors on standby). Buy toner cartridges (for printers and photocopiers) that are recyclable and never throw those away.</p>
	<p>12. PAPER - Print + photocopy only when necessary, only the number you need + use both sides (you can use recycled paper too). Use scrap paper for informal notes to yourself/ others. Use notice boards to communicate rather than making multiple copies. Set strict limits for children when using printers, encourage them to 'think before you print' and to use both sides in class.</p>
	<p>13. Become an expert yourself: read up/research so you can teach your pupils with authority... Get a local environmental organisation to come in to deliver a workshop on a topic to help get the message across. (<i>contacts available at website below</i>)</p>

