

Helping Your Child Get Started

The Darlene Tapley Environmental Showcase encourages, promotes, and provides students with the opportunity to explore their local outdoor environment while developing, implementing, and improving their *scientific literacy*. Inquiry skills, problem solving, and decision making are the three components of Scientific Literacy from the New Brunswick *You and Your World* (K-2) & Science Curricula. The theme of the 18th annual Darlene Tapley Environmental Showcase is “**My Environmental Footprint**”. We have chosen this theme because of its versatility and to encourage students to get outside, explore, and ask questions. We encourage students to dig deep, get creative (maybe a little dirty) and find something that interests them.

Guiding Questions

Kindergarten

1. Why do I want to help protect Nature? Why do others?
2. What can I do to help Nature?
3. What do I throw away?
4. How can I throw away less?
5. How can I use less water? Less energy?
6. What could I refuse, reduce, reuse, or recycle to help the environment? How would that change my life?
7. What/How can I make art out of recycled materials?
8. Which of your 5 senses help with reducing, reusing, and recycling?)

Grade 1

1. Why is the Environment important to you? Your family? Your community?
2. How could we work together as a class to reduce waste? As a family? As a community?
3. Where does our waste go? What happens to it?
4. How do plants help the environment?
5. What could you do to help the environment?
6. What/How can I make art out of recycled materials?

Grade 2

1. Why is the environment important to you? To animals? To your community?
2. How has the environment changed over time? (Interview your parent, grandparents, etc.)
3. What can you do to protect the environment? (Leave no trace/no littering)
4. What is your environmental footprint?
5. What do you throw away? How could you reduce what you waste? Could it be reused, recycled or composted?
6. Why/How does what you do now affect the future?
7. What/How can I make art out of recycled materials?

Grade 3

1. Why is the environment important?
2. Why is soil important for the environment?
3. What is your environmental footprint?
4. Can you reduce your waste?(food, water, electricity)
5. What happens to garbage? Where does your garbage go?

6. Can you make soil? (composting) What could it be used for? Would that reduce your environmental footprint? What role does soil have in the life cycle of plants and animals?
7. What/How can I make art out of recycled materials?

Grade 4

1. How do plants, animals and humans rely on the environment to meet their needs?
2. How can we protect the environment to ensure those needs are met in the future?
3. Does human activity influence the weather/climate? How? What are the impacts of this on the landscape, plants, animals and ecosystems?
4. What is your environmental footprint?
5. What is can you Refuse, Reduce, Reuse and Recycle? DO the 4Rs change your environmental footprint?
6. How can I make art out of recycled materials?

Grade 5

1. What is my environmental footprint?
2. What are the things that I use made of? Where do those materials come from?
3. Can the things I use be converted back into their original form?(ie paper-trees, plastic-petroleum)
4. How much garbage to I create? Does my class? Does my house?
5. Can I reuse items to reduce the amount of waste I create?
6. Why is refusing, reducing, reusing and recycling important?
7. What/How can I make art out of recycled materials?

Project Tips/Guidelines

- Project theme “My Environmental Footprint-Refuse, Reduce, Reuse, Recycle”
- Projects are done on an individual basis, but we encourage collaboration with Parents, Grand Parents, Community members, etc. (Individual projects are necessary for prizes)
- Write about what you have learned in ***your own words***.
- Projects must include a written piece and a model. Projects are judged on Knowledge of Topic, Organization, Communication, Model, Written Component, and Relation to Theme.
- Projects are accepted in both official languages.
- Get **creative** and create a display. This can be a 3D model, an experiment, a painting, a story, etc.
- Put it all together. (Have you answered your initial question(s); there may be more things you want to explore, discover and learn about. Write them down so you don’t forget)
- Practice your presentation