

EcoSchools Student Conference

Description of resource: This resource offers organizational and facilitation tips for a student conference where community organizations and/or students provide workshops on diverse environmental topics to the participants.

Goal: To inspire and engage a large number of students in environmental topics/actions by offering diverse workshops facilitated by community members/students. This event offers students the ability to follow their interests and allow the group a broad experience to bring back to their school.

Example of Student Conference (with contributions from Burlington Green's Imprints Student Conference)

Registration information

- *The conference will begin at 9:00 am and conclude at 3:00 pm.*
- *The host school can accommodate 400 participants for this event. Each school can register a total of 10 students.*
- *Students may register for three workshops (A , B & C) followed by participation at a 2:00 pm presentation and departure at 3:00 pm*
- *Free bussing and lunch will be provided.*
- *The planning team is working hard to make this a **green** event. Please remind all your registered students of this prior to attending. Each student will be provided with a stainless canteen upon arrival they can fill with water. A waste free lunch will be provided & there will be recycling and organic waste bins located throughout the school activity areas.*
- ***Each participant is asked to bring along a mug & a spoon to be used for soup at lunch - help us be a waste free event!***

Steps to Register:

1. **Prepare a list of the 10 students you would like to register for the conference.** We encourage you to try to choose students that you believe will benefit the most from the lessons learned and who will effectively carry the conference benefits back to their schools.
2. **Review the workshop descriptions and make a list of your preferred options** - have a few choices for each student on hand in the event you find a specific workshop is full. Note: try and register your students for a variety of workshops to broaden the experiences gained. You will need to register each student for 3 workshop sessions.
3. **Confirm your school's approval and supply coverage prior to proceeding with the registration process.**
4. **Have a question before you proceed?** Contact us at info@studentconference.ca.

Schedule the Student Conference:

8:00 AM:	Volunteer arrival
8:15 – 8:45 AM:	Exhibitor/ Presenter sign in
8:45 – 9:15 AM:	Student Arrival and Registration
9:15– 10:00 AM:	Keynote Speaker: Robert Bateman (Healthy snack grab)
10:00 - 10:50 AM:	Workshop Session A
11:00 - 11:50 AM:	Workshop Session B
12:00 – 12:50 PM:	Lunch to be provided in our High School Cafeteria (lug-a-mug/plate/cutlery)
1:00 – 1:50 PM:	Workshop Session C
2:00 - 2:45PM:	Closing Session with Closing speaker & departure

Example of Workshops provided by Community organizations

Take Action

A1 - Food For Thought- Eat locally	Have fun with hands-on cooking using local, low impact ingredients and learn how to change your buying and eating habits to help reduce your imprint on the planet.
A2 - EcoLeadership: Youth. Environment. Leadership.	Through interactive activities and group discussions, this session will give you the opportunity to discover your role as a young environmental mentor, and to explore how you can turn education into action by leading workshops in your own community.
A3 - Build Your School Composter	Learn how to build a composter for your school in the wood shop. Take the composter back to your school and start your own composting program.
A4 - Sustainable Student Leadership	This fun and interactive workshop will help us apply some great sustainable practices to our own lives so we can accomplish more, live happier AND maximize our long term impact, and that's what it's all about!

Get Energized

E1 - Outdoor Eco Games	Get energized and enjoy the outdoors! Participate in a relay of four different eco-focused games, learning more about environmental issues while you have fun and get active.
E2 - Know Your Energy Usage	You will also discover what your individual impact is on the earth by calculating your “Footprint” – you will be amazed!
E3 - Green Walls/ Green Roofs	Learn from the best! The creator and founder of Green walls will be leading the workshop and teaching everyone about the benefits of having a “living wall”.
E4 - IC4 I can Change Climate Change	This interactive program examines the issue of climate change and how it is connected to our North American lifestyle.

Au Natural!

N1 - Plant it for the Planet	A guided walk along our creek where you will learn more about native and non native species and creek maintenance.
N2 - The Stream of Dreams	Join Conservation Halton staff for this creative workshop to discover more about the importance of protecting our local waterways and how you can take action to make a difference.
N3 - Back to basics	Protect Mother Earth! Get back to basics & learn about First Nations teachings about the environment. Listen to traditional drumming and music while learning how to live in peace with the natural world.
N4 - Species at Risk	“Species at Risk” is a ‘nose to beak’ experience with live raptors designed to help students understand the threats faced by some of Ontario’s wildlife.

Get’R Done!

G1 - Go Green, Go for Gold	Want to get your school Eco-certified? Want to learn what that means? Sign-up for this workshop and get a how-to by students who’ve already gone through the certification process.
G2 - Protecting Resources	Interested in being an environmental champion? Learn about conserving water and reducing waste – we all have a part to play.
G3 - Trash is Treasure -Recycled	One person’s trash is another person’s treasure! In this workshop you will

ART	learn how to make use out of salvaged materials and how to incorporate recycled materials into your piece of art!
G4 - Consumerism – DIY Clothing	Do you like recycling your stuff? Learn how to recycle your clothes and how consumerism affects us and our planet.