



Green Team Project

Educating Children On Sustainability



Educate & Act® is a free environmental education program brought to you by the **Green Team Project**. The curriculum materials are sponsored by ECOS Education LLC, and are offered to schools, educational programs or organizations wishing to educate school-aged students on sustainability, environmental issues and conservation.

Educate & Act® provides twenty-one, easy-to-implement, curriculum units that cover a large range of environmental topics like recycling, energy, water, air quality, composting, trees, endangered species and more. Students involved in the program participate in projects and activities that improve their environment and educate others how to live more sustainably. The program is designed to integrate into the classroom curriculum or to be used in an after school enrichment program. The program is year-long, but has individual units that can be completed in one to three class periods. Lesson units provide helpful components like presentation materials, lesson plans, activities, web resources, templates and project checklists.

Educate & Act® is correlated to the Common Core State Standards and the AASL Standards for the 21st-Century Learner. The Program utilizes the challenged-based learning approach. This approach focuses on increasing student engagement by providing collaborative learning experiences, in which teachers and students work together to explore compelling issues, propose solutions to real problems, and take action. The approach asks students to reflect on their learning and the impact of their actions, and present their ideas and solutions.

Students in the program will:

- be involved in activities that will teach them how they can appreciate and improve the environment through hands-on, real-world learning experiences
- create school-based public service announcements and commercials
- educate fellow students through presentations they plan, prepare and present
- assist with the recycling efforts at the school or facility
- plan and manage several school and community outreach events
- plant a tree at the school, facility or park
- host an Earth Day Fair
- make recycled crafts
- participate in a Swap and much more!

Tyler Gerhart Wood created **Educate & Act®** as she found it challenging to locate an easy-to-deliver, engaging and comprehensive environmental program for her child's school. She is on her fourth year of teaching the program at Ocean Palms Elementary School in Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida.

Educate & Act® is now being utilized by over 100 educational facilities in 18 states. Tyler believes every child should be environmentally literate so that they can effectively care for the planet they will inherit. "Children are our strongest advocate for environmental change and truly want to make a difference in the world".

Testimonials

"It is with great enthusiasm that I embrace the Educate & Act environmental education program at our school! Our children impact our world with the facilitation of innovative service and stewardship to our environment. It is pure joy to watch our young leaders change the world!"

Betsy Wierda - Principal, Ocean Palms Elementary, Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida

"I recently started a Green Team at Ruth N. Upson Elementary School for grades 3-5 using the Educate & Act environmental program. I can't say enough wonderful things about all that is included. The Powerpoints are amazing, with great images, facts and videos to help students understand the environmental impact and what they can do to help save our schools, communities, and planet. It's everything a teacher needs for a successful educational program. Quite simply, it eliminates the time consuming process of finding the information piece by piece. The craft projects are excellent. They are not only enjoyable, but show the students what they can do with reusable items to make new things.

Educate & Act gives students the chance to see how they can make a difference. It builds their self confidence, social skills, and self worth. I even have parents that attend every meeting and are amazed by what they are learning. The students are excited to share their new found knowledge with everyone they know, which is one of our biggest goals. We look forward to every meeting and only wish we had more time for discussion.

I know that this program can make a difference in not just helping our planet, but showing our students they can be the "change" we want to see in the world. I have thirty students in the program, with about thirty more that would love to join. The kids in the group are spreading the word and they are taking it seriously. Thank you so much for what you are doing for our children and our planet."

Jessica Petote, Teacher & 2013 Green Champion- Ruth N. Upson Elementary School, Jacksonville, Florida

"Educate & Act is a fabulous program that motivates kids while teaching them about the environment. Because of my daughter's participation in the class, we installed solar panels for our water heater and pool. My daughter now brings a reusable water bottle to school, serving as a good role model for her classmates and her family."

Alicia Bernet- Parent of a student in the program

About the Author

Tyler Gerhart Wood is the author of **Educate & Act®** and the Director of K-12 Education at the **Green Team Project**. In addition, Tyler owns her own consulting business focused on education marketing and technology services to companies in the K-12 industry. Before starting her consulting business, she worked for Apple for 9 years where she held various management positions in the Education Marketing division. She was responsible for creating and managing the first wireless laptop cart solution, which is one of the most widely adopted solutions to date. She also managed third-party curriculum developers, iLife digital curriculum, and content and production of Apple's professional development courses. Tyler has worked in the education industry for over 20 years serving various roles as a teacher, director, regional board member and environmental instructor.

Tyler is the group owner of the Green Education Consortium on LinkedIn, a group with over 500 members, designed to share green practices, solutions, grants, resources and curriculum for schools.

Tyler is a LEED Green Associate and a certified Green Classroom Professional by the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC). She also holds a Bachelor's Degree in Child Development, and a Master's Degree in Teaching, Educational Technology.

Tyler is available for school assemblies, training on **Educate & Act®**, guidance on green school practices and programs and conference presentations. Tyler can be reached at twood@greenteamproject.org or by phone at 678.270.0495.