



Environment prospects in schools



# What is sustainability ?

**In general:** Avoidance of the depletion of natural resources in order to maintain an ecological balance; the endurance of systems and processes.

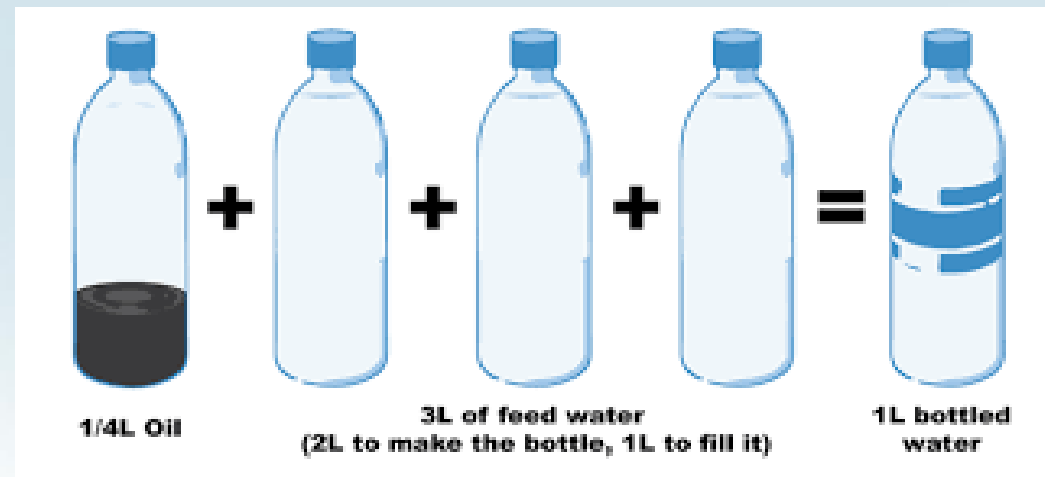
**Particularly:** (In ecology) the property of biological systems to remain diverse and productive indefinitely. Long-lived and healthy wetlands and forests are examples of sustainable biological systems.



# Saving water at schools

Water-efficiency measures reduce water and sewer costs by up to 30 percent. Significant savings in energy, chemical and maintenance expenses often follow.

Students can help conserve water by doing a variety of things:





# Ways of saving water

## What everyone should do !

- turn off the faucet when not needed → save 2 gallons of water / min (approx 7 &  $\frac{1}{2}$  litres)
- replace plants that need a lot of water with native plants adapted to local climate and rainfall.
- be on the look-out for wasted water; tell your teacher to alert the custodian/building engineer if you see any leaky faucets, drinking fountains or toilets.
- improve water conservation awareness: a water conservation poster contest allows all of the kids to take part in spreading the news
- whiteboards instead of blackboards → less water used for cleaning chalk



# Ways of saving water

## What teachers should do

It is important to know what you, as an educator, can do to help both students and faculty conserve water resources.

- educate students on water conservation measures
- encourage all school employees and students to submit ideas; respond to each suggestion offered. A good example could be establishing a “Good-Idea Box”
- choose at least one school employee to manage all conservation ideas, conservation discussions with school officials and any meetings related to water conservation.



# Diminish paper waste

- **Making the most of Computers/Printers/Copiers:**
  1. Tell your school about free paper-saving software – You can download software that will help save paper by removing wasteful content when printing from the Web and reformatting documents to print more efficiently.
  2. Use computers whenever possible – Submit your papers and other homework via email. If you have laptop then use it.
- **Be smarter about paper**
  1. Buy recycled or alternative paper products – Besides being better for the environment, recycled paper products can be less expensive, too. You can also find products made from non-tree sources such as hemp, bamboo, banana, kenaf and crushed stone.
  2. GOOSE paper(Good On One Side) – this method is proven to significantly reduce paper waste



# Diminish paper & plastic waste

- Determine paper pickup.  
collect paper on scheduled trash days
- Secure collection boxes.  
provide you with collection boxes;  
one class per week working on plastic art projects





# School activities



- Tree planting & parks clean twice a semester





# Methods of organizing

Get across-the-board involvement.

recycling program including *students, teachers, staff, administrators and custodians*.

- *Committee* made up of individuals from each of these populations  
→ develop a program that takes into account everyone's needs and addresses to everyone's concerns.
- Designate one person as the representative for each group  
→ explain the need of recycling to their peers and ask for support  
→ help communicate program developments and changes and be the "point person" for questions that arise

# Bibliography



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**Thanks for your attention**

