



## **Educational tools about resource conservation: Curriculum, lesson plans, videos, and more**

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### **Waste reduction and recycling**

#### **King County programs and resources**

- [Elementary schools](#)
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#### **Food waste reduction**

- [Be a food waste warrior](#) - Educational toolkit from World Wildlife Fund. See grade level options.
- [Food: Too Good to Waste resources](#) - Information and resources for all grade levels and adults
- [Lesson Plans on food justice topics](#) - for grades 9 – 12

#### **Hauler educational services**

If your school receives recycling or organics collection services from a hauler listed below, contact the hauler to request an in-class or virtual presentation, a waste sort activity, and other resources.

#### **Cedar Grove Composting**

Schools with Cedar Grove Composting collection services may contact Maggie Brown at [maggieb@cgcompost.com](mailto:maggieb@cgcompost.com) or 206-715-8071 to request:

- Free composting signs
- Trainings for students and staff

See [Cedar Grove Composting facility tour](#) – 6 minute video

## Recology

Educational programs below are available for schools with Recology collection services in these cities: Bothell; Des Moines; Issaquah; Mercer Island; Shoreline; and Tukwila.

- School assembly program
- Sorting games
- Tabling at a school event
- Touch-A-Truck event
- Recycling facility tour for students 16 years or older

Visit [Education & Outreach - Recology](#). Email: [educationoutreach@recology.com](mailto:educationoutreach@recology.com).

## Republic Services

Online curriculum: <https://recyclingsimplified.com/for-educators/> - see grade level options.

Schools with Republic Services collection services in Clyde Hill, Covington, Kent, Lake Forest Park, Lake Washington School District, Renton, Sammamish, Tahoma School District, and unincorporated areas of King County: Contact Carla Johnson at [Carla.Johnson2@republicservices.com](mailto:Carla.Johnson2@republicservices.com) or 425-646-2533.

## Waste Management

Recycle Right curriculum for elementary schools:

- [Elementary-Curriculum-Overview -Waste Management resources.pdf \(sharepoint.com\)](#)
- [Curriculum-Grades-K-2.pdf](#)
- [Curriculum-Grades-3-5.pdf](#)
- [Curriculum-Grades-4-5.pdf](#)

For all K-12 schools with Waste Management collection services, email [Recyclenw@wm.com](mailto:Recyclenw@wm.com) to request:

- In-class or virtual presentations on recycling, composting, and garbage sorting.
- Waste sorting in a cafeteria during lunch, with small prizes for those who sort correctly.
- Waste audits to show how classroom, office, cafeteria, and other areas of the school are sorting their waste, followed by education about correct sorting.
- “The Story of Recycling,” a book-themed journey on how to recycle a book (grades K-4).

## Compost

- Video: [“The Compost Story” Video \(compostfoundation.org\)](#)
- Kindergarten / Primary (1<sup>st</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup> grade): [Backyard Magic Composting Handbook](#)
- Primary (1<sup>st</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup> grade) / Intermediate (4<sup>th</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> grade): [Gardening and compost resources](#)
- Middle school (6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> grade): [Soil Story Curriculum](#)
- High school (9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> grade): Ideas for student research projects focused on composting from Cornell University [composting curriculum](#)
- Find information, curricula, and lesson plans about composting at [compostfoundation.org](http://compostfoundation.org).

## Other resources

- [The Story Of... - Story of Stuff](#) – Animated shorts and documentaries
- [Waste Audit Lesson Plan](#)

## **Climate change**

**Climate Generation: Curriculum resources:** [Climate generation resource library](#)

### **Project Drawdown**

The mission of the nonprofit Project Drawdown is to help the world stop climate change as quickly, safely, and equitably as possible by advancing science-based climate solutions, empowering new climate leadership, and promoting new voices.

[Climate Solutions 101 | Project Drawdown](#): Six video units focused on climate solutions based on scientific research and analysis.

[Drawdown Foundations | Project Drawdown](#): Covers emission sources and solutions. Drawdown defined as the point in time when levels of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere stop climbing and start to steadily decline. Also see [Drawdown Solutions Library | Project Drawdown](#)

### **Project WET**

- Intermediate (4<sup>th</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> grade): [Climate Resilience Lesson Plan](#)
- Middle school (6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> grade): [Climate Resilience Lesson Plan](#)
- High school (9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> grade): [Climate Resilience Lesson Plan](#)

### **Sustainability Ambassadors**

Middle and high school: [Our Classroom Climate Action Plan](#)

## **Energy conservation and renewable energy**

### **National Energy Education Development (NEED)**

Curriculum, lesson plans, science kits, and teacher guides:

- [Kindergarten](#)
- [Primary \(1<sup>st</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup> grade\)](#)
- [Intermediate \(4<sup>th</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> grade\)](#)
- [Middle School \(6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> grade\)](#)
- [High School \(9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> grade\)](#)
- [Teacher Education](#)
- [Distance Learning Resources](#)

# Water conservation and water pollution prevention

## King County Water and Land Resources

- Primary/Intermediate (1<sup>st</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> grade): [Stormwater Runoff Education Guide](#)

## Puget Sound Starts Here

- Intermediate (4<sup>th</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> grade): [Drain Rangers Curriculum](#)
- Middle School (6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> grade): [Drain Rangers Curriculum](#)
- [Stormfest Guide](#)

## Project WET

- [Water Festival Guide](#)
- [Maps and Posters](#) and [Downloadable Products](#)
- [WETconnect – Distance Learning Resources](#)

# Environmental justice

## Curriculum resources and lesson plans

- [Lesson Planet: Environmental Justice Lessons](#): Free lesson plans about environmental justice.
- [NAACP: Teaching Intersectionality and Environmental Justice in Our Classrooms](#): Offers links to a variety of lesson plans.
- [Teaching Tolerance: Analyzing Environmental Justice](#): Middle to high school students will analyze how pollution disproportionately affects low income and minority communities.
- [Teaching Tolerance: Environmental Justice Learning Plan](#): Middle school students will focus on questions about environmental justice and how it impacts people of color.
- [Teaching Tolerance: What is Environmental Justice?](#) Grade 3-5 students will learn how air pollution affects people of color and those living in poverty, and will use a map to locate environmental injustices.

## Videos

- [CEED: What is Environmental Justice](#): An animated storyline with no spoken language. Intended audience: elementary and middle school students
- [Grist - Environmental Justice, Explained](#): An overview of environmental justice in 3:33 mins. Intended audience: General public, educators, middle and high school students, parents
- [Khan Academy: Environmental justice | Social Inequality](#): An overview of environmental and social justice. Audience: General public, educators, middle and high school students, parents

## Other environmental justice resources

- [Equity Literacy Institute](#): Offers free resources and a framework for creating equitable schools.
- [National Institute of Environmental Health Science – Kids Environment – Environmental Justice](#): U.S. government website about environmental justice, with a focus on public health and connections to a young person's environment.
- [Teach Climate Justice](#): Includes free, downloadable teaching resources and lesson plans for elementary through high school.

## **Additional resources**

### **King County Green Schools Program**

[Student Green Teams - King County, Washington](#)

Includes resource and activity guides for teachers and student team advisors.

### **School district sustainability plan**

[Berkeley Unified School District Sustainability Plan 2018: A Deeper Shade of Green](#)

This school district plan includes strategies to reduce the environmental footprint of schools and increase environmental literacy. The plan includes “facilities improvements, maintenance projects, nutrition services functions, curriculum integration and everything in between.” The plan can be used as an educational tool for secondary school students or student teams wanting to explore district policies and plans for sustainability.