



Bellevue Children's Academy

School district: Private

School location: Bellevue

Began participating in the Green Schools Program: In September 2017

Level One of the Green Schools Program: Achieved in February 2018

Level Two of the Green Schools Program: Achieved in January 2019

Level Three of the Green Schools Program: Achieved in January 2020

Sustaining Green School 2019-20: Achieved in June 2020

Waste Reduction and Recycling (Level One)

- The school has maintained a recycling rate of 66%.
- At the start of 2018-19, all students participated in a school-wide Going Green Together assembly provided by King County.
- Students and staff learned about waste reduction and recycling practices in the school's weekly e-bulletin.
- In its cafeteria, the school replaced all Styrofoam plates with compostable plates.
- Green Team students created and shared a video encouraging students to only use one paper towel when drying their hands.
- Kindergarteners participated in a conservation unit where they learned about conservation practices and the environment.
- The Green Team created posters showing what materials can be recycled, and the posters were hung throughout the school near recycling bins.
- The staff Green Team partnered with the after-school student Comet Club to promote correct sorting of recyclable and compostable materials.



Energy Conservation (Level Two)

- Fourth-grade classes completed an energy unit where they learned about energy sources and energy conservation practices.
- Kindergartners calculated their carbon footprints and created footprint diagrams highlighting where energy can be conserved.
- Students pledged to conserve energy by signing the school's Energy Pledge Wall.
- Students were assigned the daily classroom job of turning off lights in empty rooms.
- To conserve energy, doors and windows were kept closed while the heating/cooling system was on.

Water Conservation (Level Three)

- Students pledged to conserve water by signing the school's Water Pledge Wall.
- First- and second-grade classes learned about dams during a hydro-energy unit.
- The Green Team created water conservation signs which were posted next to all school faucets to remind students to turn off the water when not in use.

Sustaining Green School recognition

The school has been recognized as a Sustaining Green School for sustaining and building on its Level One waste reduction and recycling practices, Level Two energy conservation practices, and Level Three water conservation strategies. How the school built on its Level One through Three practices is described below.

Sustaining Green School 2019-2020

- During weekly teacher meetings, updates were shared about waste reduction and recycling, and teachers talked about conservation actions conducted in each class.
- Starting August 2019, a monthly Green Schools update included actions students had taken at school and ways families could go green at home. The Green Updates featured student actions at school and home.
- In September 2019, a DocuSign program was added to eliminate paper contracts and documents.



King County Green Schools Program

Success Story

Reduce • Reuse • Recycle • Rethink

- Each class watched the TED talk [Shake & Fold](#) on how to only use one paper towel when drying one's hands. Students practiced in classrooms and during an assembly. The Shake and Fold practice was promoted in restrooms.
- Fourth-grade students completed a unit on the Great Pacific Garbage Patch and small student groups created inventions to help solve the problem. Students then presented their inventions to all teachers during distance learning in spring 2020.
- Starting April 2020, students carried classroom jobs such as light monitors to their home spaces, and taught their family members about energy and water conservation.