



King County Green Schools Program

# Success Story

Reduce • Reuse • Recycle • Rethink

## Eagle Rock Multi-Age Elementary School

**School district:** Riverview

**School location:** Duvall

**Began participating in the Green Schools Program:** October 2007

**Level One of the Green Schools Program:**  
Achieved in June 2009

**Level Two of the Green Schools Program:**  
Achieved in May 2017

**Level Three of the Green Schools Program:**  
Achieved in May 2019



Earth Keepers environmental club at Eagle Rock receive recycling containers from the Green Schools Program.

### Waste Reduction and Recycling (Level One)

- Eagle Rock Multi-Age School increased its recycling rate from 65% to 85% in the 2018-19 school year.
- Recycling bins provided by the King County Green Schools Program were added to all classrooms and the lunchroom.
- The student-run Earth Keepers club placed stickers on recycling bins. Provided by the Green Schools Program, the stickers show what can be recycled.
- The school switched from polystyrene to durable trays in the lunchroom.
- Teacher Deborah Edwards started worm bins in the classroom and next to the school garden for composting food scraps. She also went paperless in all parent communication and homework assignments in the 2008-09 school year.
- The school began collecting compostable materials intermittently since it did not have a hauler to collect compostable materials.



Teacher Deborah Edwards and student accept the King County Earth Hero at School award in 2008.



- In March 2017, with the help of parent volunteers and teachers, intermediate students formed a student Green Team to monitor waste in the school lunch room and educate younger students about waste reduction and recycling.
- Parent volunteers assisted students to sorting compostable materials and created a volunteer schedule to haul compostable materials to be composted.
- Students participated in a King County Green Schools assembly on waste reduction and recycling in November 2018.
- In spring 2019, the school started to collect food scraps for onsite composting and maintained four 37-gallon compost wheelie bins on school grounds. Students helped empty food scraps into the compost bins and turned the wheels.
- Teachers and students worked together to make sure milk cartons were empty before placing them in outdoor recycling carts.
- Throughout the school, art made by students from recyclable materials was displayed to remind and encourage students to reduce waste.
- Green Team and Family Group leaders organized a campaign to encourage students to use durable, reusable water bottles and recognized students that brought their own water bottles.

## **Energy Conservation (Level Two)**

- The student Green Team formed an energy conservation patrol to check areas of the school regularly for energy waste.
- Energy conservation practices were promoted at monthly all-school assemblies, and energy conservation tips were included in the electronic biweekly newsletter.
- In February 2017, parent volunteer Terry Jongejan conducted a lesson on energy conservation to help students learn how they can conserve energy at home and at school and why it is important.
- Eagle Rock's translucent roofing allowed students and teachers to take advantage of daylight to reduce energy use.



## Water Conservation (Level Three)

- Green Team and Family Group leaders made announcements monthly about water conservation facts and tips.
- Parent volunteer Terry Jongejan shared a poem in each classroom about water as a vital natural resource we share with people around the world.
- Students and staff toured the local wastewater treatment facility with City of Duvall.
- Teachers and a custodial staff member monitored water fixtures and reported problems to the district Maintenance and Operation Supervisor.
- Custodial staff turned off hot water and circulation pumps during school breaks.
- Water conservation signs were posted near faucets in classrooms, bathrooms, and common spaces.
- Native plants were planted on the school grounds, and rain water was used to irrigate the plants.
- Equipment, tools, and utensils were washed with reusable cloths to reduce water waste.

## Environmental Education

- Teacher Deborah Edwards planted a school garden to engage students in hands-on learning. Ms. Edwards developed carbon footprint curriculum materials appropriate for K-1 students.
- The school participated in a Marine Environment Study examining effects of pollution and human-made materials on marine mammals. The Green Team discussed how to eliminate or reduce use of plastic bags.

## Award

Teacher Deborah Edwards won a 2008 King County Earth Heroes at School award.