



## **Moorlands Elementary School**

**School district:** Northshore

**School location:** Kenmore

**Began participating in the Green Schools Program:** September 2015

**Level One of the Green Schools Program:** Achieved in May 2016

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

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

**Sustaining Green School:** Achieved in May 2019

### **Waste Reduction and Recycling (Level One)**

- Moorlands Elementary achieved and maintained a recycling rate of 48%.
- The student Green Team made weekly announcements with tips on waste reduction and recycling practices.
- To improve sorting, the Green Team created and shared a video with each classroom to show what can be recycled and what should be placed in garbage.
- Green Team students created 3-dimensional displays of recyclable materials and hung them in the school's library and main office.
- To reduce waste, the school used durable, reusable trays and bulk condiment dispensers in its lunchroom.
- In morning announcements, the school promoted waste-free lunches to encourage students to reduce wasted food and to bring lunches from home in reusable containers.
- To divert used pencils from the landfill, students collected short, used pencils from upper classrooms for students in primary classrooms.
- To reduce paper use, bins were placed in each classroom to collect paper used only on one side so students could use the blank sides.
- The school collected 30,000 plastic lids for students to use in creating an outdoor mural.



## Energy Conservation (Level Two)

- While continuing to reduce waste and recycle, the school learned about energy conservation.
- Energy conservation tips were shared in morning announcements throughout the school year.
- School thermostats were set between 68-70 degrees.

## Water Conservation (Level Three)

- At the start of the school year, students signed pledges committing to water conservation actions.
- Water conservation tips, along with reminders about reducing waste and recycling, were shared with each class once each month.
- Fourth-grade classes learned about environmental stewardship by raising coho salmon in the school's salmon tank and releasing them into the Puget Sound watershed.
- Students learned about the life cycle of plants by sowing, tending, and harvesting produce in the school's raised garden beds.
- Moorlands installed a rain barrel to collect water to irrigate the school's garden.
- Signs encouraging students to soap up their hands before rinsing were posted next to restroom and classroom sinks.

## Sustaining Green School recognition

Moorlands Elementary sustained and built on its Level One through Level Three practices. How the school did this is described below.

## Sustaining Green School 2018-19

- Student Council members presented monthly in their classrooms about reducing waste, reusing, and recycling.
- Student Council members also made announcements in their classrooms on how to conserve water at school and home, and how to save energy by turning off lights and appliances when they were not needed.



King County Green Schools Program

# *Success Story*

*Reduce • Reuse • Recycle • Rethink*

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- Green Team members watched a video on what items can be composted.
- In March 2019, Student Council members picked up litter around the school campus, tracked quantities and types of litter, and shared results with their classes.
- In preparation for 2019-20 school year, Student Council members educated students about the benefits of not wasting food and of composting.
- Moorlands Elementary hosted the King County assembly on waste reduction and recycling at the start of the 2018-19 school year.