

2023- 2024

EcoConnections Workshops

FREE Recycling and Resource Conservation Classroom Workshops (grades 6-12)



- align with Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) and can be adapted for different class period lengths and grade levels.
- are interactive, informative, and tailored to meet the different academic and developmental levels of students in different grade levels.
- include environmental justice messaging that connects to people and communities locally and globally.

- include **Re+** messaging: rethink, reduce, reuse, and recycle.
- include positive actions students can take towards the goal of Zero Waste of Resources.
- include supplemental materials such as an introductory video, Kahoot game, and activity sheets.

To register, call (206) 583-0655 ext. 111 or email workshops@triangleassociates.com

All workshops are available for in-person instruction. Contact the scheduler for select virtual workshop options.

Workshop	Target Grades	Description
Focus on Life Sciences		
Biodiversity in Our World	6-12	How might our use of natural resources and disposal of waste affect biodiversity? Students discuss consumption and disposal of natural resources. This workshop uses real-world examples to show the impacts of overconsumption on ecosystems. Students rotate through activity stations as they gain a clearer understanding of our effects on biodiversity. Students will share actions and choices that can have positive impacts on the natural world.
Biospheres	6-12	How does the closed system of a biosphere compare to Earth? Students observe model ecosystems and discuss the relationships between biotic and abiotic resources. Students compare the consumption of resources in the model system to the human consumption of resources. Discussions will emphasize ways we can minimize our impacts.
Focus on Earth Systems and Human Activity		
Consumption Junction	6-9	How does recycling conserve natural resources? Students work through different stations as they explore the product life cycle of an aluminum can from its bauxite source to the recycling bin. Students will learn about the time, energy, and resources used to produce a can and discuss the environmental impacts, particularly on global communities where bauxite is mined. The workshop ends with actions we can all take to support a more sustainable future.
Earth Impact	9-12	How and why do we choose what to buy, and what impacts do these choices have on our planet? Students rotate through lab stations as they examine the causes and impacts of overconsumption. Students use critical thinking and analytical skills to assess the “earth impacts” of various common products, with a focus on ways to make more sustainable choices.
Food for Thought	6-10	What are we really wasting when we waste food? Students examine some of the common causes for food waste in the U.S. As they explore the environmental impacts of food production, disposal, and waste students will focus on actions they can take and learn about local initiatives to reduce food waste.
Four Rs for Our Climate	6-10	How might our consumption of resources and waste disposal habits contribute to climate change? Students discuss the science of climate change and review the Carbon Cycle. Students will explore how our consumption of natural resources and disposal of waste contributes carbon emissions. In small groups students will analyze a product life cycle and share their thoughts on possible waste reduction and recycling practices.
Plastic Pollution and Our Oceans	6-9	Where does plastic come from and what impact does it have on our planet? Students review where their waste goes and why plastic is an important part of that discussion. Students will visit stations as they explore the impacts of plastic products. The workshop ends with actions students can take to rethink and reduce their use and disposal of plastics.
Waste Systems and the Circular Economy	6-12	Why do we need different waste systems and what do they do? Students learn how different waste systems work, explore the positive impacts of a circular economy, and discuss different careers connections that keep our waste systems operational.
Focus on Environmental Justice		
Climate and Communities	9-12	What is environmental justice and how does it relate to climate change? Students participate in a facilitated discussion of real-world issues through the lens of climate change, communities, and actions. Small groups will review local or global issues and hold conversations around environmental impacts and inequities. Presenters will help student gain a clearer understanding of how our consumption and waste connects to our impacts on resources and communities. Students will end with a review of possible actions to help reduce emissions and support sustainable resilient communities.

In addition to the EcoConnections classroom workshops, King County provides free assistance and resources for student teams and schools to improve conservation practices through the King County Green Schools Program. Visit <https://kingcounty.gov/GreenSchools> or contact Dale Alekel at 206-477-5267 or dale.alekel@kingcounty.gov.



Alternate Formats On Request 206-477-4466 • TTY Relay: 711