



Community Connections

Students will research and engage in an energy-saving initiative in their community.



Learning outcomes

By the end of this activity, students:

- ✓ will have extended their knowledge and created or participated in energy-saving initiatives
- ✓ will have learned various ways to make a local impact on a global issue

Complete **ONE** of the following options.

You will only be able to submit work and get credit for one option.



Option 1

Create your own community initiative

Students will create and lead their own energy-saving virtual or in-person initiative in their community.

Option 2

Participate in an existing initiative in your community

Students will research existing energy-related initiatives in their community and participate in a virtual or in-person community event.

Important

Please respect all school and governmental guidelines and restrictions surrounding COVID-19. Review the 2021 CDC COVID-19 policy [here](#). This challenge does NOT require students to participate in an in-person event. For example, students can participate in a virtual initiative hosted by an organization (such as WWF's Sweater Day), or can create an initiative in which they engage their community through the teacher's or school's social media or a letter writing campaign (for example, encouraging members of the community to walk or bike to school or work instead of taking a car).





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Option 1

Create your own community initiative

Students will create and lead their own energy-saving virtual or in-person initiative in their community.

Materials

As needed to conduct your community initiative.

Proof to be submitted

Proof of participation in a community initiative (photos, social media posts, letters, newspaper articles, etc).

Activity

Discuss energy-related community issues with your students and select one topic that interests them most.

Inform your students that they are going to develop and lead a community-wide event (in-person or virtually) related to this topic. As a class, develop a plan for raising awareness in your community that includes the steps necessary for actually implementing the in-person or virtual event. Remember to discuss with your students how to be safe when out in the community and online. Document your initiative by taking pictures, screenshots of social posts advertising the initiative, or images of letters written to the community explaining the initiative.



Teacher tip

Earth Day, April 22, 2021, is a great day to get your entire community involved.





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Option 2

Participate in an existing initiative in your community

Students will research existing energy-related initiatives in their community and participate in one virtual or in-person community event.

Materials

As needed to take part in the community initiative, Community Connections worksheet (attached).

Proof to be submitted

Proof of participation in community initiative (photos, social media posts, letters, newspaper articles, etc).

Activity

Discuss energy-related community issues with your students and give them time to research an existing organization that addresses energy-related issues. Have students use the Community Connections worksheet to learn more about this organization.

Contact a representative from that organization to find out how your class can participate in one of their community initiatives safely. Participate in an event hosted by this organization virtually, or, if it can be done safely, in person.



Teacher tip

If there are no initiatives happening at the same time as the Classroom Energy Diet Challenge, help arrange for students to volunteer safely and remotely with the community organization.



[Classroom Energy Diet Challenge](#)



[Energydiet.ca](#)



Community Connections

Name _____

Date _____

Worksheet

Name of organization:

Location:

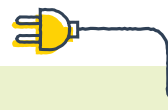
What is the organization's goal?

Number of members in organization:

What is one initiative of the organization?

How does the organization address energy use or misuse?

List three interesting facts about this organization:





Community Connections

Examples from previous years of how this challenge can be completed:

Example 1

The Crestview Cougars participated in a community initiative called The Plastic Bag Grab Challenge and raised awareness in their school about collecting plastic bags for recycling. They even created items out of plastic bags that they collected!



Example 2

RNS2 created their own initiative of educating families in their school community about idling their cars. They collected data about how long cars were idling during school drop off, graphed the data, and then created posters to encourage parents to turn off their cars during drop offs!



Classroom Energy Diet Challenge



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