



Orientation to the Green Ambassador Curriculum

The Green Ambassador Curriculum consists of an initial orientation unit followed by a set of ten-week topic-specific units, each of which culminates in the production of a community event. Each of the ten-week units focuses on one zone of sustainable practices and technology: composting, water, food, lifestyle, and so on.

The first few weeks of study in a unit are designed to make the students highly knowledgeable in that unit's zone of practice; during the remaining students work in teams to plan, prepare for and produce an earth+ ("earth-positive") event that enlightens their community about sustainability issues and solutions.

Sequence of Instruction

Step 1

Orientation – Students learn about systems and about some aspects of their own role in the system of “the earth”.

Step 2

Students become experts on composting (another topic could be used, but composting has proven to be a good place to start and the examples provided here assume that you will teach composting as your first topic-specific unit).

Step 3

All students proceed through every lesson of the "How to Be a Green Ambassador" units, learning each aspect of event planning, preparation and production, based on the example of composting. Thus all students will learn how to create a photo-story about composting, all students will learn how to prepare and deliver a slide-based presentation on composting, all students will learn how to write a manage public relations related to composting, all students will learn how to create an elementary lesson plan about composting, etc.

This culminates in an earth+ community event that presents issues and solutions related to composting, an event which showcases the best of the class's work (e.g., the photo-story voted as best, the slide presentation voted as best, etc.).

Step 4

Select a different sustainability topic from those presented in "Becoming an Expert", and teach students all about that topic.

Step 5

Students plan, prepare and produce an earth+ community event about the topic they have just learned about. In this case, each student team is assigned a different task, whether it be the creation of slide-based presentation, a video, a game, an elementary lesson plan, etc.—and one of the teams is assigned the task of overall event planning/preparation. This period culminates in the event.

Continuing

Repeat the pattern of step 4 and 5, each time with a different sustainability topic.