

Join the Planet Protectors Club!

Objective

Establish a Planet Protectors Club at your school.

Activity Description

At Planet Protectors Club meetings, students can discuss environmental issues and develop projects they can engage in at school and in their community.

Materials Needed

- Planet Protectors Club kits (one for each teacher/group leader; order free copies by calling (800) 490-9198 and referencing document number EPA530-E-98-002 or visiting <www.epa.gov/epawaste/education/kids/ppcform.htm>)
- Welcome Note
- Planet Protectors Club Duties and Responsibilities list

Key Vocabulary Words

- Composting
- Conserve
- Energy
- Incinerator
- Landfill
- Pollution
- Recycling
- Resources
- Waste Reduction

Duration

Regularly scheduled meetings based on local needs and resources.

Skills Used

- Skills will differ based on local projects, but may include:
- Communications
 - Motor skills
 - Observation/classification
 - Problem solving
 - Reading
 - Research



science



social studies



math



art



health



language arts



Step 1: Order and review the contents of EPA's Planet Protectors Club kit. Plan and publicize a kick-off meeting for teachers or volunteers who will lead the meetings. Use the clip art provided to create signs and other materials. If there is an existing, relevant school-wide initiative (e.g., new beverage container recycling program) that could involve Planet Protectors Club members, discuss the members' potential roles (e.g., monitoring collection bins and educating students).

Step 2: Enlist students to join the club and schedule the first meeting. At the meeting, give each student the Welcome Note, Mission Papers folder, and Planet Protectors badge (you may want to reserve several components of the kit to hand out individually at subsequent meetings). Describe the Planet Protectors Club and the types of projects in which members will be involved (these will be unique to your school; see the list of ideas below). Have them read and sign the Planet Protectors Club Duties and Responsibilities.

Step 3: If you have decided to hand out pieces of the Planet Protectors Club kit one at a time, hand out one piece at each meeting and plan activities related to it. Alternatively, or after you have handed out all the pieces, you can plan school- or community-related activities for members. Possible activities include:

- Picking up litter from school grounds.
- Initiating a recycling program (e.g., for cans, bottles, paper) in your school or monitoring one that already exists to make sure it is working.
- Initiate a waste reduction program, such as a "materials exchange" where students and teachers bring in items (e.g., sports equipment, clothing, school supplies) for exchange and/or donation.
- Plan field trips to local recycling centers.
- Invite speakers from your local government's environmental/recycling office or a nonprofit

organization to give presentations. Other ideas for Planet Protectors Club activities/projects can be found in the following resources (visit <www.epa.gov/epawaste/inforesources/pubs> or call (800) 490-9198 for ordering information):

- *Reuse + Recycling = Waste Reduction: A Guide for Schools and Groups* (EPA530-K-03-001)
- *Service-Learning: Education Beyond the Classroom* (EPA530-K-02-001)
- *Volunteer for Change: A Guide to Environmental Community Service* (EPA530-



K-01-002)



Students should be individually assessed based on participation, effort, interest, or other relevant criteria.

1. Enlist adult volunteers to administer Planet Protectors Clubs in several district schools. Prepare a volunteer agreement/code of conduct for them to sign and have them fill out any paperwork required by your school.
2. Hold an "EnviroFair" or other event that brings together all Planet Protectors Club members from your district. Members can share information about their local projects and/or participate in a large-scale project.
3. Integrate Planet Protectors Club activities into the regular school curriculum, such as calculating the results of a recycling survey for a math lesson.



Welcome to the Planet Protectors Club!

This folder contains your Mission Papers. They are very important papers that include an activity book and a Planet Protector badge. At each club meeting, you will work on an activity to add to your Mission Papers. Keep them safe and bring them to every meeting.

As a Planet Protectors Club member, you will learn about environmental issues and help save the planet by performing tasks at your school, at home, and throughout the community. You will also be able to help your fellow students learn about protecting the environment by sharing the lessons you learn with them.

Name: _____

Student Handout

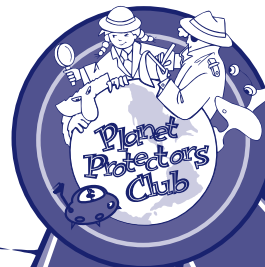
As a member of the Planet Protectors Club, I promise to perform the following duties and responsibilities to the best of my ability:

- 1. Learn how to conserve resources and reduce waste.**
- 2. Encourage other students and adults to conserve resources and reduce waste.**
- 3. Always be courteous and never lose my temper or become "bossy."**
- 4. Obey all school rules and set a good example for other students.**
- 5. Learn and perform Planet Protectors Club duties.**
- 6. Wear my Planet Protector badge while performing Planet Protectors Club duties.**
- 7. Do my best in school and keep my grades and citizenship up to high standards.**

I have read and agree to all the Planet Protectors Club Duties and Responsibilities.

Student's Signature

Date



Clip Art

