

King County Green Schools Program Podcast

Show Notes: Episode #3

Climate change is the topic of the third King County Green Schools Program podcast episode. The episode discusses climate change and its impacts on King County ecosystems. Listeners are invited to make connections between climate change and local ecosystems. Also included are highlights of actions in King County and an interview with local conservationist Stevie Knapp.

Current Highlights in Sustainability

Below are resources mentioned in the podcast episode about current sustainability initiatives and actions.

- King County <u>Strategic Climate Action Plan</u> This regional strategy is intended to confront climate change and build a more resilient, sustainable, and equitable King County.
- <u>People for Climate Action</u> This group helps local governments develop and carry out climate action plans.
- <u>Take Action on Climate Change</u> This King County infographic includes information about confronting climate change through everyday actions.

Green Team or classroom activities

- See the <u>December</u> Green Team Activities Sheet for resources and activities on climate change.
- Each student can calculate their <u>Ecological Footprint</u> and use the information to build an individual climate action plan.

Connectivity Activities for Green Teams or Classrooms

Animal, Place, Thing (primary activity)

- 1. The leader names a letter.
- 2. Students volunteer to respond, naming an animal, place, or thing that starts with that letter.

This game is suitable for any themed classroom activity or Green Team meeting.

Examples for the letter "S"

Animal

Place







Salmon

School

Snack

Thing

Lightning Scavenger Hunt (secondary activity)

- 1. The leader instructs students to find a variety of objects in a set amount of time, usually less than one minute.
- The leader should choose the items in advance. The items students hunt for can be themed to any classroom activity or Green Team meeting. A few examples:
 - o A re-usable item
 - o A recyclable item
 - A compostable item
 - o A rechargeable item
- 3. When students return from the scavenger hunt the leader can facilitate a brief discussion based on classroom or Green Team meeting goals.

Resources that Informed the Show

- Climate change impacts on old growth forests
 - <u>Forest Service Considers Rule Change That Prevented Logging of Some Northwest Old-Growth</u> <u>Trees</u> by Courtney Flatt
 - <u>Forest Facts and Figures</u> from Washington Forest Protection Association
 - <u>A New, Old Growth Future</u> from The Nature Conservancy
- Climate change impacts on freshwater habitats
 - <u>Summary of Climate Change Effects on Major Habitat Types in Washington State</u> from the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife and the National Wildlife Federation
- o Climate change impacts on the Salish Sea region
 - <u>Ocean Acidification in Washington Waters</u> from the Washington State Department of Ecology
 - <u>Tribal Salmon Culture</u> from the Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission
 - <u>Southern Resident Killer Whale Population</u> from the Center for Whale Research
- o Local groups involved in climate action and volunteer opportunities for youth
 - <u>Washington Conservation Corps</u> for young adults aged 18 15
 - <u>Washington Trails Association</u> for youth aged 10 18
 - <u>King Conservation District</u> positive impacts of stewardship projects and volunteer opportunities
 - <u>Mountains to Sound Greenway</u> how restoration work is helping salmon
 - <u>Mountains to Sound Greenway Get Involved</u> volunteer and learning opportunities

Would your school, class, or Green Team like to share a Sustainability Story with the community for a future podcast episode?

Please email your story to greenschools@triangleassociates.com.