



Green School Proposals

Suggested Curriculum links (Grade 5)

English Language

Arts:

- 10.1 use a range of prewriting, drafting, revising, editing, proofreading, and presentation strategies
- 10.2 demonstrate an understanding of the conventions of written language in final products
- 10.3 use technology with increasing proficiency to create, revise, edit, and publish texts
- 10.4 demonstrate commitment to shaping and reshaping texts through stages of development
- 10.5 select, organize, and combine relevant information, from three or more sources to construct and communicate meaning

Materials

- Research Resources
- Pen
- Paper
- Word Processor
- Dictionary

Overview

Suggest ways make your school greener by making a formal proposal to the school. Students will research ways to make their school greener and submit a proposal to the principal.

Objectives

- To research ways to “Green” the school.
- To write and publish a cover letter and proposal for the school.

Background

Project proposals are excellent ways to develop formal writing and editing skills. A proposal generally has sections for the introduction, the problem/scenario, suggestions/solutions, justification, asking for what you need and a budget.

In the **introduction** the writers provide background information on the problem you are trying to solve. It may include why the project is important and highlight issues regarding the scenario. It may also highlight what will happen if the problem is not solved.

Early in the proposal is a **statement of the problem or scenario**. This simply tells the reader what problem you are trying to solve with the proposed project.

The writers will **propose suggestions, solutions or steps** to solve the problem. They will also have to **justify** or back up their solutions with information they have collected or researched.

Finally the writers will write **what they need** to implement the project and a **budget** to get these items.

Procedure

1. *Give out the “Green Proposal Scenarios”*

Divide the class into groups. You may introduce the scenario that they are green school consultants and they may create a company name (and possibly a logo) for each of their teams. Pass out one of the five



At the Fluvarium

Join us for our annual *Earth Day* event in April! Discover real, everyday actions to take to make a difference. Learn simple changes that you can make where you live, work and play, that can reduce your impact on the Earth. Booths and presentations from local environmental organizations, will teach the public how we can make small changes that will really add up!

"Green Proposal Scenarios" to each group. Review with the class how to write a proposal and the various sections in it.

2. *Research the topic and collect information.*

Review with the class how they can research their problem or gather information through surveys and interviews. Ask the students to find out as much information as they can on their topic.

3. *Recommend solutions.*

Ask the groups to brainstorm solutions to their problem and to back up their suggestions with information they have found. Have the groups create a list of things they need to implement their solutions and find out how much it would cost.

4. *Write the proposal and edit.*

Ask the students to write their proposals using the information they've gathered. Collect the proposal drafts and correct them and make suggestions. Ask the students to take the suggestions and edit their proposal. Ask the students to make a final draft.

5. *Write a cover letter.*

Ask the students to write a cover letter for their proposal addressed to the principal of the school. It should be a summary of their written proposal highlighting the problem and possible solutions. It should also include their "company" contact information.

Extensions

- Ask each student to prepare a project display and presentation. Invite the principal to the classroom and ask the groups to present their ideas to her/him.

Resources

Websites

Queen of Green Blog

<http://www.davidsuzuki.org/blogs/queen-of-green/>

Information how to live green.

Georgia Perimeter College: Proposal Writing

<http://facstaff.gpc.edu/~ebrown/infobr3.htm>

Tips and strategies for writing proposals.



Green Proposal Scenarios

1. Going Green in the Cafeteria

Your principal would like to make the cafeteria more environmentally friendly. He/She wants your group to write a proposal that should include what environmentally friendly things they are doing already and what issues/barriers they face. Identify areas where they could improve and propose ideas to make the cafeteria more environmental friendly. The budget for this is very limited.

2. It's not easy being Green! (Students)

Your principal would like to improve environmentally friendly behaviours in Students. He/She wants your group to write a proposal that includes what currently affects student "Green" behaviour and steps that can be taken to improve it. The budget for this is very limited.

3. It's not easy being Green! (Teachers)

Your principal would like to improve environmentally friendly behaviours in teachers. He/She wants your group to write a proposal that includes what currently affects teacher "Green" behaviour and steps that can be taken to improve it. The budget for this is very limited.

4. Green grounds

Your principal would like to have a vegetable garden on school grounds. She/He wants your group to write a proposal detailing the benefits of having a school garden, where it would be located, steps that can be taken to implement it and cost saving measures for starting it up. The budget for this is very limited.

5. School goes green!

Your principal would like make the school more environmentally friendly. She/He wants your group to write a proposal that should include what environmentally friendly things they are doing already and what issues/barriers they face. Identify small steps the school can take to become more environmental friendly. The budget for this is very limited.

