

Sustainability Coordinator Advanced Training: Energy Resources for Curriculum Building

Field Trip Ideas

American Museum of Natural History: <http://www.amnh.org/>

Ecology Village, National Park Service, Gateway National Recreation Area:

Building 70, Floyd Bennett Field Brooklyn, New York 11234, (718) 338-4306.

Grades 4-8. Day and Overnight trip available. An environmentally-focused overnight camping experience for schools, scouts and non-profit youth groups that promote team building. Teacher leaders must attend a workshop to prepare students for this experience. COST: FREE for day programs/\$25 Fee for overnight programs.

<http://www.nps.gov/gate/forteachers/ecology-village-camping-teacher-training-course.htm>

Farm Field Trips: Various farms allow student groups and some have great educational programs for kids to get their hands dirty.

<http://www.grownyc.org/greenmarket/education/farmfieldtrips>

Green Market Tours: Various locations throughout NYC (212) 341-2259. Hours: M, W, F, 9-3 p.m. Guided tours and activities. Helps students gain an understanding of local agriculture and the importance of eating fresh, seasonal foods. COST: Free.

<http://www.grownyc.org/markettour>

GrowNYC: The sponsor of NYC Green Markets, this organization has field trips and in-class visits available for a nominal cost. <http://www.grownyc.org/>

New York Hall of Science: Wonderful hands-on demos for students, and until Jan 13th, there is a section in the “Regeneration” section designed by a middle school group in Queens. <http://www.nysci.org/>

Operation Explore (OPEX): A powerful environmental stewardship program that services all NYC students in grades 4-7. OPEX has a day trip, an overnight trip and year-long project components for students. The program focuses on exploring the Forest, Farm, and Coastal habitats. The program is coordinated amongst six city and state organizations. <http://www.operationexplore.com/>

Park visits: New York Botanical Garden, Brooklyn Botanical Garden, Queens Botanical Garden, and Central Park Conservatory. Each have their own benefits, and these have educational programs as well.

Urban Park Rangers: The Urban Park Rangers connect New Yorkers to the natural world through environmental education, outdoor recreation, wildlife management and active conservation. <http://www.nycgovparks.org/programs/rangers>

Wave Hill: Combining Art and Science in the Bronx. Outdoor, inquiry-based learning is the hallmark of these innovative programs, which use Wave Hill's grounds as living laboratories for natural science exploration. <http://www.wavehill.org/education/>

Competitions and Awards

Disney Planet Challenge: Normally a competition run for both elementary and middle schools, it is currently on hold for this year, but hopefully will return. It asks for groups of students to put together projects of how to make the world a better, greener place. <http://disney.go.com/planetchallenge/>

Eco-Schools USA: Eco-Schools is an internationally acclaimed program that provides a framework to help educators integrate sustainable principles throughout their schools and curriculum. Based on your level of sustainability education at your school, you may already be qualified for a certificate or recognize your efforts. <http://www.nwf.org/Global-Warming/School-Solutions/Eco-Schools-USA.aspx>

- **Register to Become an Eco-School:** <http://www.nwf.org/Eco-Schools-USA/Register1.aspx>
- **Eco-Schools USA** main page: <http://www.nwf.org/Eco-Schools-USA.aspx>
- Eco-Schools **Energy** Pathway page: <http://www.nwf.org/Eco-Schools-USA/Become-an-Eco-School/Pathways/Energy.aspx>
- Eco-Schools **Climate Change** Pathway: <http://www.nwf.org/Eco-Schools-USA/Become-an-Eco-School/Pathways/Climate-Change.aspx>
- Eco-Schools **School Grounds** Pathway (for *Outdoor Classrooms and Schoolyard Habitats*): <http://www.nwf.org/Eco-Schools-USA/Become-an-Eco-School/Pathways/School-Grounds.aspx>
- Eco-Schools **Consumption and Waste Pathway** (for *Recycling*): <http://www.nwf.org/Eco-Schools-USA/Become-an-Eco-School/Pathways/Consumption-and-Waste.aspx>

Green Cup Challenge: This is an energy savings challenge run throughout NYC schools, and is taking place during the month of November 2012. Each participating school measures their energy usage over the month and that is compared to a baseline of the energy use of years past. <http://www.greencupchallenge.net/nyc/index.html>

Green Ribbon Schools: An award program that recognizes schools and individuals who accomplish great things in the areas of sustainability and health. A great way to share your and your school's accomplishments around sustainability and being "green" within their online platform. <http://www.greenribbonschools.org/>

NYC-based Organizations for Curriculum Support

Alliance for Climate Education: This organization does free assembly programs talking about climate change, using engaging presenters and interactive and fun visual media. <http://www.acespace.org/>

Children's Environmental Literacy Foundation (CELF): The mission of CELF is to establish sustainability as an integral part of every child's K-12 learning experience. They offer amazing PD's for teachers to learn about Education for Sustainability, and work directly with schools on how best to build their curriculum through the lens of sustainability. www.celfeducation.org

Green Schools Alliance: GSA is a global network of schools working together to address environmental and climate challenges through sharing and implementing sustainable best practices and promoting connections between schools, communities, and the environments that sustain them. We do this by providing programs, sharing resources, and creating peer-to-peer forums. <http://www.greenschoolsalliance.org/>

GrowNYC: GrowNYC is a hands-on non-profit which improves New York City's quality of life through environmental programs that transform communities block by block and empower all New Yorkers to secure a clean and healthy environment for future generations. They are particularly active in schools with recycling.

<http://www.grownyc.org/>

Junior Energy: Junior Energy works directly with teachers to develop programs and projects related to sustainability, and wants to be a resource for you and your school. www.juniorenergy.org

Solar One: Working with dozens of New York City public schools each year, the K-12 Education program teaches thousands of New York City youth how to live sustainably in their urban environment through the Green Design Lab and Enrichment Education programs. www.solar1.org

For more information on Sustainability-based Curriculum, visit the Sustainability Initiative website, <http://schools.nyc.gov/community/facilities/sustainability/default.htm>