

EcoSource Elementary Workshops

Building upon over 20 years of successful waste reduction and environmental education, EcoSource offers workshops that engage students in contemporary waste issues. Each workshop fosters critical thinking through hands-on learning, encouraging students to think beyond the 3 R's and explore waste as a system with multiple social and environmental perspectives. Elementary workshops also include curriculum connections and provide a model for creating innovative, environmentally focused lessons.

Important Workshop Information:

- Workshops are grade-specific and led by qualified and knowledgeable EcoSource educators.
- The program is aimed to inspire needed change in waste reduction practices, initiatives, and study in each classroom by creating awareness amongst students, teachers, and administrators.
- Student and classroom takeaways are provided to reinforce the 3R's concepts covered in the workshop.
- A minimal donation fee of \$10.00 per workshop is applied to cover the cost of program delivery and takeaways. Full and partial subsidies are available for any school with limited access to resources.
- **Workshops are only available for schools within Mississauga.**

Who we are

EcoSource is an innovative organization that empowers the community to become more environmentally responsible through creative public education. Our vision is to move public attitudes and perceptions about environmental issues toward responsible personal action.

EcoSource has been providing environmental education to schools since 1986. Our interactive workshops are led by certified teachers or others experienced in the field of environmental education and education for sustainability. We are proud to work with over 20,000 youth each year in our school-based programs.



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ECOSOURCE
Growing a Green Community

**If you are thinking a year ahead,
sow seeds...**

**If you are thinking ten years
ahead, plant a tree...**

**If you are thinking one hundred
years ahead, educate people.**

Chinese Proverb, 400 B.C.



Elementary Waste Reduction Workshops



Kindergarten: Clean and Green City **25 minutes**
How can we make our community a healthier place to live? What is the difference between garbage and recycling? Through song and play, this new EcoSource workshop will engage kindergarten students in an introductory lesson about the 3 R's and how to keep our green city clean!

Curriculum Link: SCIENCE & THE ARTS



Grade 1: Be Brave and Save **30 minutes**
Have you ever wondered what happens to an aluminum can when it makes the journey to the recycling factory? "Kenny the Can", a story that explores the wonders of recycling, helps to answer this question. Through a variety of activities, students learn how to recycle properly and discover how they can save objects from ending up in the landfill.

Curriculum Link: SCIENCE – Materials, Objects, and Everyday Structures

Grade 2: The Great Green Reusing Machine **30 minutes**
One person's trash is another person's treasure! Steve the Electrician, also known as "The Dumpster Diver", teaches students the art of repurposing old stuff. Through drama and imagination, students explore the importance of reducing waste and discover how to creatively reuse ordinary objects.

Curriculum Link: THE ARTS – Drama

Grade 3: Wiggle Away Waste **30 minutes**
Ewww worms! But did you know that worms reduce our waste by turning organics into magical compost? As students unearth the connection between worms and soil, learning how worms help plants grow, they discover that worms are a valuable and fascinating creature.

Curriculum Link: SCIENCE – Soils in the Environment

Grade 4: Trees Company **45 minutes**
Newspapers, furniture, school assignments, and buildings all depend on trees! In this workshop, students take on the role of various players in the forest industry including loggers, animals, consumers, and trees. Through dramatic play, participants discover how trees are used in society and the importance of implementing the 3R's for paper and wood products.

Curriculum Link: SCIENCE – Habitats and Communities, THE ARTS – Drama

Grade 5: Bag the Bags **45 minutes**
Plastic bags are useful for shopping and carrying our goods, but where do they go when we throw them away? In this workshop, students explore the lifecycle of a plastic bag and are introduced to the 'Great Pacific Garbage Patch'. This promotes discussion about the impacts of our actions and how to make environmentally friendly choices.

Curriculum Link: SCIENCE – Properties of and Changes in Matter

Grade 6: Eating Outside the Box **45 minutes**
Most people love snacks and the ease of prepackaged foods, and eating them is probably one of the best parts of the school day. But, did you know that a majority of the garbage created in schools comes from food packaging? Through fun games and critical discussions, students will explore the issues of over-packaged foods. By thinking outside the "box", participants will consider new ways to bring food to school and how to reduce unnecessary waste.

Curriculum Link: SCIENCE – Biodiversity

Grade 7: Broken Telephone **1 hour**
Today, many people have cell phones, and some even have two! The newest and coolest phones seem to come in and out of style as fast as you can say LOL. As a result, people are buying new phones before their old one stops working! In this workshop students investigate the lifecycle of a cell phone to uncover where cell phones come from and where they go when we are done with them. Students discuss how to make the right call, to prevent their phone from adding to the growing pile of electronic and hazardous waste polluting our world.

Curriculum Link: SCIENCE – Interactions in the Environment

Grade 8: Message in a Bottle **1 hour**
Nothing beats a cold bottle of water on a hot summer day, but does it have to be a plastic bottle of water? In North America, 2 million disposable bottles of water are consumed every 5 minutes! In this workshop, students analyze the entire bottled water system by investigating the taste, source, packaging, cost, and disposal of this product. Through engaging questions, students explore the real issues in this multi-billion dollar industry and learn to make critical decisions to help reduce plastic bottle waste.

Curriculum Link: SCIENCE – Water Systems