

# EarthSmart Classroom Presentations

**The Environmental Center** provides interactive, hands-on activities and lessons that focus on waste reduction, resource conservation, and sustainability. All lessons are free and correlate to Oregon Education Standards. Most classroom presentations last between 45 and 60 minutes, and all of them can be adapted to a variety of audiences and schedules. [www.envirocenter.org](http://www.envirocenter.org)

## Resource Revival: Grades 4-8

Just what is a natural resource anyway? In this lesson, students will learn why natural resources are crucial to our everyday lives. The difference between renewable and non-renewable resources and how resource use affects us now and in the future will be discussed.

## The Great Garbage Game: K-8

This lesson introduces the basics of waste and what we can do to save space in the landfill and conserve resources. With a hands on activity, students will discover what types of items can be reduced, reused, recycled or composted by making the right choices.

## The Hidden World: K-8

Welcome to a fascinating journey into the world of strange, rarely seen creatures! By viewing worm compost samples, students will discover some of the world's greatest recyclers. Students will be introduced to decomposition and why things that are "thrown away" don't necessarily "go away".

## Water, Water, Everywhere? 4-8

This lesson serves as an introduction to the critical issues of water conservation and quality. Students will learn about the earth's water cycle and the effects that humans have on this indispensable resource. Emphasis will be given to water issues in our region and students will explore how they can make a difference in conserving our water supply.



## Toxic Turmoil: 4-8

Selecting a student to dress up in Haz-Mat safety gear provides a starting point to explore the health and environmental dangers of many products found inside most households. Students will learn how to identify such products and how to safely dispose of them. Examples of safer alternatives will be presented.

## Sustainable Table: 4-8

Beginning with students pulling common items from a shopping bag and locating their possible origin on a large map, students will examine everyday food items, from how far they travel to how they are packaged. Students will gain a new awareness about food and its impact on our environment and our communities.

For more information or to schedule, contact:



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*More presentations on backside...*

Embedding sustainability into daily life in Central Oregon.

## EarthSmart Kids: Grade 5 and 6

This school year program encompasses many aspects of resource conservation and sustainability. We will visit your classroom every month from October to May with a different presentation from the offerings listed here. Please contact us early for availability and scheduling as this fills up fast every year. Interested in next year? Let us know at the end of the school year and we will contact you to begin scheduling at the end of summer.

### The Sustainability Series (Grades 6-12)

This is a two part series to engage your students in looking at how everyday choices can impact our natural resources and our planet. Recommended time frame for these presentations is at least 75 minutes.

#### Part 1—Watch Where You Step

A unique activity to discover the true life cycle of everyday things. Students will map the natural resources and processes needed to create everyday items such as their favorite meal or item of clothing. This is a great introduction to the Eco-Footprint concept which will be explored further in Part 2 of this series.

#### Part 2—The Ecological Footprint

An Eco-Footprint is the human impact imposed on the earth, and is a great way to begin to understand how our daily choices affect the planet. Using information from the “Watch Where You Step” lesson, students will take a look at their own Eco-Footprints as well as those of families from around the world.



### The Energy Series (Grades 4-8)

This energy series helps clarify energy concepts and the impact of energy use on our environment. (Presentations can also be scheduled separately).

#### Part 1—Energize It!

Where does energy come from? This lesson introduces the concepts of energy generation, consumption, and the associated environmental consequences. Students will look at renewable and non renewable energy sources and how energy conservation is important for a sustainable future.

#### Part 2—Solar Solutions

Expanding on the Energize It lesson, your class will explore the power of the sun to provide the energy that we need, both globally and locally.

### EarthSmart Program Supporters

Deschutes County Department of Solid Waste  
Bend Garbage & Recycling  
Cascade Disposal  
High Country Disposal  
Madras Sanitary Services  
Wilderness Garbage & Recycling

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EarthSmart is a program of  
**The Environmental Center**, a  
community supported nonprofit whose  
*mission is to embed sustainability into  
daily life in Central Oregon.*

For more information on this and other  
programs of the Environmental Center,  
please visit our website:  
**[www.envirocenter.org](http://www.envirocenter.org)**