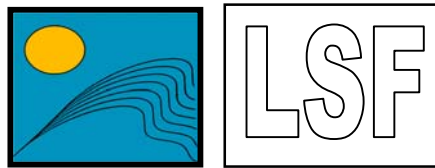


Sustainable Communities: Linking Education to Action



Teacher Kit

Welcome....

Thank you for taking the time to attend the *Sustainable Communities: Linking Education to Action Youth Forum and Teacher Workshop*.

The Forum will help your **Action Team** to implement an **Action Project** in your school or community.

At today's Forum, your Action Team will have a chance to:

- Hear inspiring speakers
- Learn about local sustainability issues
- Participate in a series of action-oriented, skill-building workshops
- Learn about sustainability success stories from community groups, government and businesses
- Meet resource people who can help you with your projects
- Work together to take action

Based on your experiences, your Action Team will identify a local **Sustainability Issue** that is important to your team and work together to make positive changes in your school/community.

This kit is designed to help you get the most out of the Forum process. *Your students also have a special student version; they should use the kit throughout the day.*

Take some time to look over the enclosed materials, especially the agenda, before we get started.

What does the Youth Forum Process Look Like?

1. Teachers attend the *Engaging Students in Successful Action Projects* Workshop, Part I two weeks before the Youth Forum.
2. a) Action Team works through the initial Action Project Steps learned in the *Engaging Students* Workshop and/or the activities in the Pre-Forum guide.
b) Students complete activities in the *Student Pre-Forum Kits*.
3. Action Team attends the Youth Forum and teachers attend Part II of the *Engaging Students* Workshop.
4. Action Team continues to work through the Action Project Steps learned in the *Engaging Students* Workshop.
5. Action Team stays in contact with LSF for help and to report on action!

What if You Missed the Pre-Forum Workshop?

Part I of the *Engaging Students in Sustainable Action Projects* Workshop is offered again in the morning on the day of the Forum. Part I is designed to help teachers to:

- Learn about the 13 steps involved in mentoring a sustainable and successful action project
- Receive a 50+ page Action Kit full of engaging activities to do with your team
- Receive 10 articles about action projects and sustainability issues
- Share ideas with other educators

Part II of the *Engaging Students in Sustainable Action Projects* Workshop is offered in the afternoon on the day of the Forum.

What is a Sustainable Future Anyway?

A sustainable future is one in which economic prosperity, social justice and protection of the natural environment are all seen as equally important.

In a sustainable community, people in the community, no matter what their particular job is, make decisions in a way that takes responsibility for the good health and well-being of:

- All people
- All animals
- Who are close by and far away
- Now and for generations to come

Community Resources

Organizations that seemed helpful:

Websites I would like to check out:

People I would like to contact:

Questions I want to remember to ask:

Questions I would like to ask LSF:

Session E: Nuts and Bolts

Part I: REFLECTION

Time: 25 minutes

Goal: To reflect on your group's experience at the Forum

General Idea:

Your package includes a series of reflection questions (see below!) for your group to answer TOGETHER. **OPTIONAL:** Once you have finished discussing and answering all of the questions, use markers etc. to create a poster to take back to the school.

Questions:

1. What did you learn?
2. What was the most interesting thing you learned/did so far at the Forum?
3. What are you excited about?
4. What do you hope will happen?
5. If you had to pick an issue or action idea today, what would it be?
6. What do you want to find out more about?
7. What are the group's next steps?

Part II: REPORTING TO THE FORUM

Time: 10 minutes

Goal: To create a summary of your forum experience so that they can be reported to the whole Forum

General Idea:

We will bring you an overhead transparency and a marker. Have a Team Member read each question aloud. Have the Action Team Members use the poster and their thoughts to create an answer to each question that can be shared with the whole Forum. Write the answers in a way that people in the audience will be able to read them.

Part III: ACTION PROJECT STEPS—WHAT IS NEXT?

Time: 10 minutes

Goal: To prepare for your Team's Next Meeting

1. When is your next meeting? Where?
2. Who is being invited?
3. Who will invite people?
4. What needs to be done before the meeting?
5. Who is doing what?

Project Final Report

Did you complete an action project? CONGRATULATIONS!!!!

WHY SHOULD WE DO A FINAL REPORT?

By completing a final report you:

- Reflect on your Team's experience which strengthens everyone's skills and prepares all of you for the next project
- Share your experience with LSF, which helps us to determine how to help you better.
- Share your experience with other Action Teams. Action Teams are constantly asking us for cases studies. Your experience can motivate other Teams and help them to be more successful.

WHAT SHOULD WE DO?

Please use the questions on the next page to guide your final report. Your final report can be in the form of a:

- Word document
- Book
- Mural
- Video
- A combination of the above
- Your fabulous idea here _____

The final report should be compiled by the *entire team*. Deadline for Final Report is May 31st, 2007.

Please send a copy of your final report to:

Elaine Rubinoff
Rubinoff@yorku.ca
Fax # (416) 736-5837
Learning for a Sustainable Future,
343 York Lanes, York University
4700 Keele Street, North York, Ontario M3J 1P3
Phone: (416) 327-2032

Final Report Questions

1. Is your Action Team a class project or a club in the school?
2. Was there anyone who is not a teacher or a student on your team? If yes, who?
3. What did you do for your project?
4. What problem does it address?
5. How does the project connect to local....
 - a. Schools
 - b. Businesses
 - c. Community organizations
6. When did you start your project? When did you finish? How much time did you spend on it?
7. What were this year's outcomes of your project?
8. Will there be other outcomes in the future?
9. Do you think your project was successful? Why or why not?
10. What did you learn as a result of participating in this project?
11. Is there something that needs to be maintained/ "kept going" as a result of this project? If yes, how will this happen?
12. How will you share the results of the project with other schools and/or community members?
13. Are there any controversial issues associated with the project? If you answered yes, what are they and how did you address them?
14. Your contact information:

Complete name of organization/group:

Contact name and title:

Address:

Telephone:

Fax:

E-mail:

Website:

Need some help? Call or email us. We would love to hear from you!