

# Rally your friends to reduce waste.

**WE** go   
**green**

AN INITIATIVE OF



REFLECTION



ARGUMENT FORMATION



LEADERSHIP

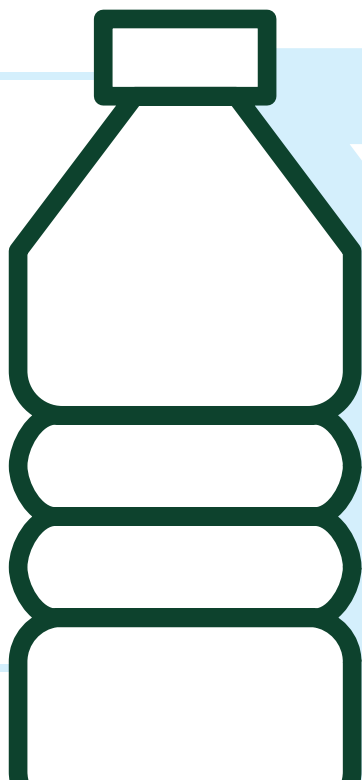
13

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL 13: CLIMATE HEALTH

# PURPOSE + SUSTAINABILITY = CHANGE

When we go green together, anything is possible! Whether it's taking a sustainability pledge to reduce plastic waste or starting a garden at your school or community, you have the power to create a greener world for everyone to enjoy.

Watch your actions today grow into incredible transformations tomorrow with WE Go Green. Make an even bigger, greener impact by getting everyone you know involved!



**FACT:**  
*It takes 450 years for one  
plastic bottle to decompose.*

# Ways to Take Action

*Take a pledge to reduce your usage of disposable plastics like single-use water bottles.*



## At School

- Take an online sustainability pledge with your classmates.
- Commit to not using single-use plastics. Replace plastic bags with reusable bags and switch plastic water bottles with reusable water bottles.
- Using recycled paper, post recycling tips around school. Take it further and post more tips through social media.



## At Home

- As a family, take part in a zero-waste challenge for a day or week. Learn how you can change your everyday habits to more sustainable ones.
- Learn more about energy conservation with your family. Together, make an effort to reduce driving and encourage walking, biking or taking public transit.
- Use a water filter or sustainable water dispenser.



## As a Community

- Organize a garbage pickup walk in your neighborhood.
- Host a clean-up party for a local park or playground.
- Plant a community garden where everyone takes turn maintaining it.



## Tech for Good Badge

Create a waste-tracker or recycling tracker app to count how much waste or recycling you are creating. Include interesting facts and milestones to keep everyone motivated to continue going green. Be sure to share your experiences using [#WEgoGreen](#).

**Go further:** Set a goal for how much you would like to recycle or how little waste you collect. For example, it takes about 63 plastic bottles to be recycled into a new sweater.

## In the Classroom

With our Classroom Resources, educators can integrate service-based learning into their curriculum to broaden students' understanding of issues they are passionate about. Download Act Today for a Bright Future at [WE.org/wegogreen](http://WE.org/wegogreen) for lesson plans and ideas to explore the issue of sustainability and learn about the importance of living sustainably.

### Act Today for a Bright Future

Grade	Subject Connection	Learning Goals	Skills Developed
6 to 8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Arts</li> <li>• Language</li> <li>• Social Studies</li> <li>• Science and Technology</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Explore the impact humans have on the environment.</li> <li>• Learn what it means to live sustainably.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Action planning</li> <li>• Research and writing</li> <li>• Argument formation</li> <li>• Organization</li> <li>• Reflection</li> <li>• Information literacy</li> <li>• Critical thinking</li> <li>• Leadership skills</li> </ul>
9 to 12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Arts</li> <li>• English</li> <li>• Social Sciences and the Humanities</li> <li>• World Studies</li> </ul>		



## Campaign in Action

Leadership students at Waskada School have been taking charge of the planet and future with a new school-wide composting project for WE Go Green. The group dove right into their project by organizing a sustainability walk around their school. They looked for things that they could change to make their school more sustainable such as the food waste at break and lunchtimes. The students began to investigate the possibility of running their own composting program, from calculating costs to applying for grants to writing proposals. After a tense period of waiting, their project has now been approved and they can't wait to get started!

# Get Doing

## STEP 1

### Investigate and Learn

Planting the seeds for change begins with learning more about what's going on in your own backyard! Start with the Environment Issue Card to understand local issues, then dive into the issue further by doing your own research.



#### CHECKLIST

- Check out the Environment Issue Card
- Visit [WE.org/wegogreen](https://www.wego.org/wegogreen) for more resources
- Create an Action Plan
- Put up campaign posters
- Watch and share the campaign video
- Print out and distribute the Creative Resource
- Share on social media with [#WEgoGreen](https://www.wego.org/wegogreen)
- Complete your Campaign Impact Survey
- Plan your WE DayX

### Community Mapping

Download the Community Mapping activity at [WE.org/weschoolskit](https://www.wego.org/weschoolskit) to use as a guide to take a walk. Look for signs of issues that have negative or positive impacts (e.g., lack of recycling bins or overuse of electricity). Do you notice any obvious improvements you can make to your school?

Issues	Solutions

What sustainability initiatives already exist in your school or community? Which ones work best? \_\_\_\_\_

## STEP 2

### Action Plan

What pledges can you take to help promote sustainability in your school?  
Have each person in your group set their own goal for making a positive impact on the environment, then decide on a pledge to take action on as a group!

#### Set Your Goal

What do you pledge to do? \_\_\_\_\_

---



---

What is your goal for this action? (E.g., how many seeds will you plant in the garden? How many plastic water bottles will you switch to reusable bottles?) \_\_\_\_\_

---



---



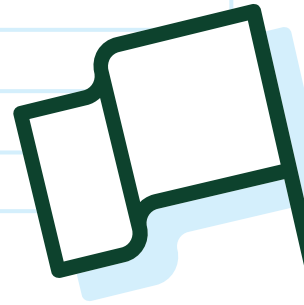
---

When will you hold your campaign? \_\_\_\_\_

---



---



### Assign Roles

Ready to plan the actions you will take for your sustainability pledge? Use this chart to decide who will be responsible for each task involved.

Task	Group Member(s) Responsible
Make school announcements	
Put up posters	
Gather supplies	

## STEP 3

### Take Action

Whether it's recycling just one plastic bottle or planting 100 seeds, every action contributes to a better, more sustainable world.

*Tip: Come up with a fun challenge to get more people involved. Think of a catchy name (e.g., #GoGoGreenTeam) and spread the word!*



Don't forget to share your pictures, progress and success on social media with [#WEgoGreen](#).

### Reflect

What does sustainability mean to you? \_\_\_\_\_

---

---

---

Why is it important that your school and community get involved in a campaign focused on sustainability? \_\_\_\_\_

---

---

---

What worked and what didn't with your sustainability pledges? \_\_\_\_\_

---

---

---

How can you continue to raise awareness about sustainability? \_\_\_\_\_

---

---

---

## STEP 4

# Report and Celebrate

### Report

How many people participated in the campaign? \_\_\_\_\_

How many people did you reach through the campaign? \_\_\_\_\_

How many pledges of sustainability did your group take? \_\_\_\_\_

How many people in your school took a pledge? \_\_\_\_\_

How long did you run your WE Go Green campaign for? \_\_\_\_\_

Has your educator contacted your WE Schools Program Manager about filling out an Impact Survey? \_\_\_\_\_

### Celebrate

Make sure you celebrate and share the success of your campaign, and reward yourselves for all your hard work.

- Share photos of your actions with your school, community and WE Schools Program Manager.
- Record the highlights of your event day and create a video.
- Celebrate impacts through a class party, assembly or WE DayX

### Thank everyone who supported your campaign!

Use this space to brainstorm ideas to thank your supporters! (E.g., host a garden party.)

