

Actions for the International Eco-Schools Twinning Programme

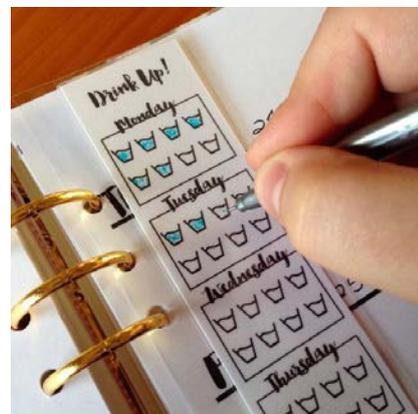
Energy

- Compare the amount energy you and your twinned school use in a week/month/term (semester)
- Both schools participate in a 'Switch off Fortnight' and compete to see which school can save the most energy over two weeks
- Students consider how their twinned school uses energy and provide advice on how they could improve energy efficiency
- Students produce a teaching document to show how their country generates energy and compare this with their twinned school
- Students carry out an electrical audit of their homes, comparing how many electrical appliances they have and discussing how many they 'need'



Water

- Compare how available fresh water is in both countries
- Investigate what wildlife lives in water bodies (rivers/ lakes/ ocean) near to your school and compare how this is different to your twinned school
- Raise money for a water based charity; if possible schools combine their profits and donate together **OR** one of the schools raises money for their twinned school
- Spend a day/lesson discussing ways to conserve water in school, how do your answers compare to your twinned school?
- Students keep a 'Water Diary' for 24hrs and compare how much and what they use water for, both in school and at home



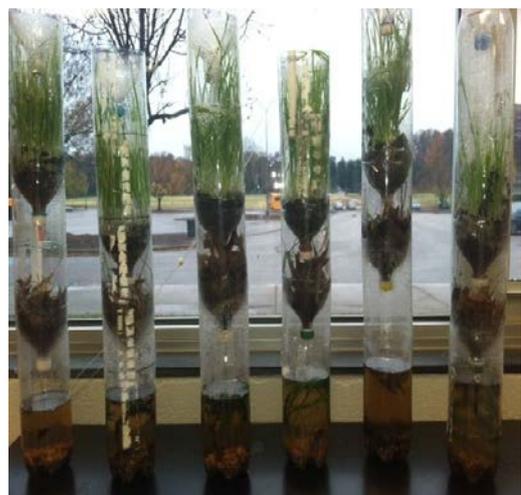
Litter, Waste and Recycling

- Compare the ways your school and your twinned school deal with waste. How much is recycled and into what?
- Students create a short video to send to their twinned school showing how and what they recycle
- Carry out a litter pick competition over 15 minutes, the school that picks the most litter during this time wins! Did you and your twinned school collect the same types of litter?
- Hold a competition where students upcycle particular waste items (such as plastic bottles) and your twinned school picks the most interesting project
- Students design a mural made from waste that could be made by your twinned school and put on display



Nature and Biodiversity

- Compare different wildlife within your school grounds/ country. Investigate what species are endangered in your twinned schools country
- Take a photo of your school ground every season and send to your twinned school. How do the seasons affect the plants that grow near your school?
- Students create a small presentation about the plants and animals found in their twinned school's country to show to the rest of the school/ parents
- Carry out a bird watch in your school grounds- are there the same or different bird species? Which school had the highest number of bird species in their grounds?
- Create insect homes, monitor and compare the number of insects living there



School Grounds and Gardening

- Both schools could have small (or large) gardens within their school and can compare what kind of plants/vegetables they are able to grow
- Schools could sell the fruit and vegetables they grow and the money both raise could be donated to local charities or used to help fund further Eco-Schools actions
- Students write and share recipes with their twinned schools for the vegetables/ fruit/ herbs they have grown in their school grounds
- Each school 'adopts' a tree in their twinned schools grounds- why not give it a name!
- Each school could plant the same type of plant/ flower and hold a competition to see which school can grow the largest/ tallest



Transport

- Carry out an audit to compare how students from your twinned school travel to and from school (do your school days start and finish the same time?)
- Both schools could run a joint a scheme to encourage more students to cycle or walk to school
- Students investigate their 'Food Miles' how far has the food they eat travelled?
- Compare the public transport systems in each country. Students design ways to improve them to make them more environmentally friendly
- Create a competition between schools to see which student can come up with the most innovative method of sustainable transport



Climate Change

- Students highlight what are the major factors causing climate change in their countries, how do they compare to your twinned school?
- Students explore different ways in which climate change would affect their country and allow students from their twinned school to think of ideas to reduce the problems and risks associated
- Hold a school debate competition on climate change. The winning team from your school then debates against their twinned school via Skype/ Facetime or even via email
- Create an assembly on climate change for your twinned school to present

- Send your twinned school a climate change pledge stating how you each promise to reduce your carbon footprint over the next school year



Global Equality

- Students could carry out research into their twinned countries rights regarding equality and diversity and compare them too their own
- Create a timelines to show how equal rights have developed over the years within their own and the country of their twinned school
- Student highlight problems young people face today and compare to those faced by students from their twinned school
- Both schools create a joint 'Equality Code' stating how they will treat others in their school community
- Create a news report about an issue facing your school, can your twinned school suggest ways this can be overcome. Are your problems the same or different?



