



Activity Title: Become a Sustainability Expert

Recommended Grades

Grade 1, Grade 2, Grade 3, Grade 5, Grade 6, Grade 7

Curriculum Connections

Energy

- 5 – renewable and nonrenewable resources
- 6 – investigate energy resources

Earth Systems

- 1 – caring/respect for nature
- 3 – human activities change Earth; Earth is heating up
- 6 – personal actions can help climate change

Living Systems

- 2 – human behaviours affect plants/animals

Interactions and Ecosystems (Grade 7 Science)

- 7 – Human impacts, personal/public decisions that involve consideration of environmental impacts

Time and Place (New Social Curriculum)

- 2 – natural resources in Canada

Systems (New Social Curriculum)

- 3 – examine resource use in Alberta.

Time

10-20 minutes (10 minute video + discussion time)

Skills Focused On

- Critical Thinking
- Hypothesizing
- Problem-solving



Materials Needed

Link to video <https://youtu.be/lbohzfXKzmU?feature=shared>

One of the following:

- Printed copies of paper quiz
 - <https://www.futureenergysystems.ca/public/download/files/253460>
- Link to virtual version of quiz
 - <https://wordwall.net/play/82682/548/605>

Discussion/Extensions

Did any of the answers to the quiz surprise you?

What are some other actions you can take to live more sustainably? A few more ideas:

- Plant trees
- Avoid single-use plastics
- Recycle
- Take shorter showers

Older students might be interested in calculating their carbon footprint here: <https://footprintcalculator.org/home/en>. Students may need to ask their parents for help with some questions (e.g., square footage of their home, efficiency of family vehicles).

Additional Resources

“Become a Sustainability Expert” video produced by Future Energy Systems - provides background information and instructions for activity: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lbohzfXKzmU&list=PLwhyRzP6sRaRKYi8GLlaKHHQGudzHAqPw&index=15&pp=iAQB> .

Learn more about Future Energy Systems (<https://www.futureenergysystems.ca/>) and access more learning content, including storytimes, lab tours, ask an experts and more (<https://www.futureenergysystems.ca/engage/learning> <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCJr8N9KyFJ6d-t36TPtUlwg>).

Thanks so much to Sustain SU for helping with this video. Sustain SU is a service that provides peer-to-peer learning and support for all undergraduate students to incorporate sustainability into their University of Alberta experience. This includes providing sustainability-based services to the entire campus community, as well as opportunities to facilitate change on a larger scale. Since their inception in 2003, they have adapted their services to the needs of the campus community and volunteers. Currently, they have four teams one of which is the Outreach, Blog, and Newsletter team. This team is responsible for the content of the blog and provides workshops on how to draft a fun written or video blog post. Additionally, they promote services, events and workshops along with generation of online contents for SSU social media.