



Get Carbon Smart!

Students choose from a list of actions to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions and carbon footprint through simple daily choices. Actions will be tracked as a class and submitted to WildED.

Curriculum Links:

Science

- determine how personal choices and actions have environmental consequences
- describe potential environmental impacts of using BC's living and non-living resources

Materials:

- **Hand-outs or overhead of the following page "Steps to Living CarbonSmart".**
- **Copies of the provided "Action Tracker".**

Objective:

To empower students to actively respond to the climate change challenge by providing opportunities for personal accomplishment.

Teacher information:

1. **Following a WildED *Explore the Nature of our changing climate* program or study of climate change, teachers print a copy of the enclosed *Steps to Living Carbon Smart* and *CarbonSmart Action Tracker*. (You may want to give students their own copy too!)**
2. **Post *Action Trackers* in a prominent class location, have students choose and declare their actions goals and challenge others to match their efforts.**
3. **A one-month time period is suggested to try to make new changes into habits and allow all students a chance to get involved.**
4. **Check in with your class often to provide support and celebrate efforts.**
5. **After one month, or when action trackers have been completed, please send to: c/o P.O. Box 673 Gibsons, BC V0N 1V0 Fax: 866.652.8502 or info@wilded.org**

Debrief topics:

1. What changes did you choose and why? Which were hard/easy?
2. What do you think is the most important action on the list to do?
3. Will you continue to take CarbonSmart actions? Why or why not?





Steps to Living CarbonSmart

The challenge of reducing the impact of Climate Change is a big one for all who call Earth home. It's also an opportunity for each of us to take daily actions to create positive change.. While you might not be able to control all aspects of your life, like what kind of car your parents drive, you can pick one-or more-*CarbonSmart* actions from this list and be responsible for your own carbon footprint. Who knows, maybe your action will inspire someone else! **Take a step today!**

-  1. **Share what you have learned:** your knowledge can be a real gift to others.
-  2. **Getting around:** use human power like your bike, take trains not planes, carpool, take public transit or alternate fuel vehicles.
-  3. **Compost:** help nature recycle nutrients and return carbon to soil not a landfill
-  4. **Be local:** try to purchase locally grown food, vacation closer to home
-  5. **Just Veg out:** eat less meat-producing 1kg of beef is like going for a 3hr drive!
-  6. **Tap water not bottled:** manufacturing and transportation create CO^2 , waste, and use energy
-  7. **Unplug standby power:** some appliances like computers use energy even when turned off!
-  8. **Rethink, Reduce, Reuse, Recycle:** try to do all four, in that order!
-  9. **Buy less:** less is more, so consider your purchases carefully
-  10. **Green Thumb:** plant a tree, grow a garden-especially where nothing was growing before
-  11. **Lighten up:** fluorescent bulbs can use up to 70% less power than incandescent
-  12. **Scrub a dub:** cold water washing and hang drying saves energy
-  13. **Shower power:** hot water uses lots of energy, so how short can that shower be?
-  14. **Go green:** support green business and leadership that reflect what you care about
-  15. **Come up with your own idea!** Combine your creativity and interests

