Green Education: Motivating students to think Sustainable

Project Preface

It is a fact that we as educators today, are faced with innumerable challenges while grooming the child of the present world. They are smart, focused and tech savvy. The children of today are the decision makers of tomorrow. So the onus lies on us to make them aware of not only their educational horizons but also to groom them to be future ready and tap their enormous creative potential to achieve sustainability.

Climate change is one of the biggest challenges facing the world today. The education sector has a key role to play in addressing this challenge. Education is critical to achieving the transition to a low carbon economy and society. Teaching and learning are crucial to inspire and educate the next generation of decision makers, business leaders and citizens, and equip them with the skills and knowledge to deal with the challenges of climate change. It is time to inculcate Green habits in students to achieve sustainable Development.

Green Education basically means applying real world learning models that connect science, technology, Engineering arts and math(STEAM) with broader human concerns of environmental well being and sustainability.

Project Outcomes

At the end of this project:

- 1. Students will be encouraged to inculcate green practices in the school like saving power, judicial use of water and reusing paper
- 2. Students will be encouraged to advocate responsible consumption of energy and energy sustainability.
- 3. Students will and suggest ways and means to be adopted to ensure energy efficient classrooms.
- 4. Students will also think of innovative ways of segregating waste with a futuristic vision
- 5. Students will adopt and advocate green means of transport.
- 6. Students will learn through the Global Collaboration, how their peers across the world are tackling the problem in their countries.

- 7. Students through development of 21st century skills of collaboration, critical thinking, creativity and communication will be globally competent and future ready.
- 8. Students will learn to embed appropriate use of technology to enhance learning.

Project Plan

To apprise students of sustainability as an important aspect of our life, we should introduce the concept of Green Education in school using the **Project based learning approach**. I have designed a number of activities and competitions for students of grades 6-12.

The competitions are designed to encompass the various issues that need to be addressed like **Energy wastage**, **waste segregation**, **Eco-Fuels**, **green travel habits**, **pollution**, and **water sustainability**, many of these are designed to inculcate technology to enhance students understanding.

For Global collaborations, this activities/competition can be implemented according to the local school policies and time. They can then be shared through Skype with other countries on an agreed time and date.

Target Group: Students of grade 6-12

Beneficiaries: Students(school) apart from global collaborators

A very interesting angle would be to include them as a part of cultural exchange programmes. This will help to promote cross cultural approach to the concept and advocate Global competence among the participants.

Activities Designed Grade wise

Grade 6

Activity: Poem recitation with enactment (English or any other language)

Note: For international collaboration, students can use their native language for

Recitation

Topic: Autobiography of a tree

- Students will recite a poem based on a tree.
- They are allowed to use props.
- Students will research on different types of trees, what they provide and their environmental contribution
- This activity is really interesting as students can be dressed as trees and plants and present beautiful poems.
- This activity can be held as an inter class competition/ English project

As a Competition (inter class)

No. of Participants: Two

One each for English (or any other language) poem recitation

Word Limit: 20 lines

Criteria for Evaluation: Use of props, relevance to the theme recitation, intonation &

presentation.

Grade 7

Activity: Digital Poster Making using Publisher/Adobe Spark/PowerPoint/Sway

Note: Participating schools across the globe can use a software available to them

Topic: Vision for Future/Green Transportation

- Students will create a vision for means of sustainable transport.
- They need to research on the topic and create surveys based on the use of transport in their community.
- They are allowed to use PowerPoint.
- This activity requires students to think innovatively to devise the new age sustainable transport means like walking, cycling etc
- Also, students will advocate use of green fuels
- This activity can be held as a inter class competition/ IT presentation project

As a Competition (inter class)

Participants: Two (Team)

Time Duration: 1 hour

Internet facility will be provided by the school

Criteria for Evaluation:

Relevance to the theme, innovation, creativity, aesthetic appeal & presentation.

Grade 8

Activity: Create a Board Game using Minecraft /offline

Note: This topic can be used by students of different countries to highlight

environmental issues of their city/ country

Topic: Green City

- Students will create a board game to show their knowledge about using energy wisely
- They are allowed to use Minecraft to design the game.
- This activity requires students to research for at least a week
- Students can categorise resources as renewable and non renewable
- This activity can be held as a inter class competition/ IT presentation project
- An example would be to start with a polluted city with no energy saving policies to a green city which is energy efficient.

As a Competition(inter class)

No. of Participants: Three (Team)

Time Duration: 1 hour Criteria for Evaluation:

Innovation, aesthetic appeal, practicality in usage, message conveyed

Grade 9

Activity: Performing the *Green Audit* of the entire school and presenting the findings using Office Mix/ Sway

Note: This activity can be used by Global collaborators as a benchmark for optimizing responsible consumption of energy in their schools. Finding can be shared through Skype

Topic: Green Audit

- Students will be divided into groups of 4-5
- Each group will be assigned a floor/ part of their school to perform a Green Audit of their assigned area.
- The audit may include checking of Air Quality Index, water consumption, electricity consumption, waste disposal etc. in the classroom.
- They will document everything, the energy wastage, consumption and other ways students adopt to contribute to the environment.
- The students will take photographs, videos etc. to showcase their findings.
- After accumulating these they will analyze the ways and means by which energy wastage can be reduced.
- This activity requires students to do surveys, create posters, charts and printable etc.
- This activity can be held at regular intervals for the entire school
- The best audit teams can be named as the Green Brigade of the school who will be responsible for the Audit for a year.

As a Competition(inter class)

No. of Participants: Four (Team)

Time Duration: 2 weeks Rules and Regulations:

- ü Team of four students will be responsible for observing the initiatives taken by the classes on the floor (floor assigned to them) for their efforts in making a green school. The participants based on observation will prepare the audit report.
- ü The team of students will visit the floor allotted to them during zero period/ lunch break to do the observation.

- ü A report (8 10 pages) has to be prepared by the participants of each team keeping in mind the following points:
- a) Coverage of no. of days.
- b) Parameters of audit.
- c) Solutions offered.

The report has to be presented in front of the entire class/grade

Criteria for Evaluation:

- Date collected.
- Interpretation of data.
- Solution offered.
- Presentation.

What is Green Audit?

Grade 10

Activity: Board Display & Presentation using display boards. This activity can alternatively be performed digitally using Pad let.

Note: We shall create and share the Pad let for all the collaborators

Topic: Innovative practices & futuristic vision for waste segregation

- Students will prepare a board display
- They will be divided into groups of 4-5.
- Each group will be assigned a board. They must arrange their charts, posters, slogans, or any other display material around the idea of futuristic waste segregation.
- The students will research on the topic before presenting
- They can use photographs, posters, survey results or any other related material to decorate the board.
- This activity can be held at regular intervals for the entire school so that the habit of wise waste segregation is inculcated.
- The students can also use digital methods to display their findings like pad let or digital posters.

As a Competition (inter class)

No. of Participants: Four (Team)

Time Duration: 1 hour **Criteria for Evaluation:**

- Relevance of the issues raised, research on innovative practices.
- Message conveyed aesthetic appeal & presentation.

Grade 11

Activity: Design a logo for the school to be put on the website which represents the green education goals of the school.

Note: The different collaborating schools can hold a similar activity and we could have a competition for the best Logo Design.

Topic: Moving towards the SDGs

- Let the students research the goal to understand its relevance to school education more closely
- The objective is to let them learn the significance of the goal as they incorporate them into their logo.
- They can use various digital designing tools like Pixel to design the logo.
- They can use pictures from the creative commons for their logo after modification.

This activity can be taken up as a Competition on an annual basis, since we can have a different Goal each year. This will help promote creativity in students and also help the students understand the school goals extensively and even help in deciding the annual goals.

Grade 12

Activity: orchestration of Networking and collaboration activities by creating and maintaining a Facebook Page, Yammer group, a blog, and a Twitter handle. Also, a website should be created by the students which will document all the green activities of the school.

Topic: Global Outreach: Share your project with the world

- Students of class 12 will be divided into groups of 4-5.
- Each group will have a task to perform.
- Information Gatherers: The students will collect the pictures and written material on all the activities conducted by the school on Green education
- Information Analyzers: This group will segregate the material collected into various categories.
- Social Network administrators: They will be responsible for creating the various social network accounts. One group each for one social account.
- They will be responsible for posting the material from time to time.
- Web Administrators: This group will create the website, and document the information according to the various categories.
- The students will have teacher mentors, one for each group who will overlook the activities.

Note: Educators willing to take up the project in their classrooms can collaborate using this One Note .Notebook.

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