

Welcome to the World of Action Projects!

This guide has been created for teachers and students to prepare, inspire and support them in conducting environmental action projects. It provides a project development process, activities, tools and real-life case studies that students, teachers, and other groups can use to conduct effective, engaging environmental action projects.

The target audience is students in Grades 4-8, but the activities are easily adapted for both primary and secondary students. *Leap Into Action!* is divided into 5 sections:

Section 1 – Background on Action Education – informs, motivates, and supports you, the teacher, as you help your students plan, implement and celebrate effective action projects.

Section 2 – Student Action Activities – is a series of activities to move your students through the process of discovering, choosing, researching and planning a project.

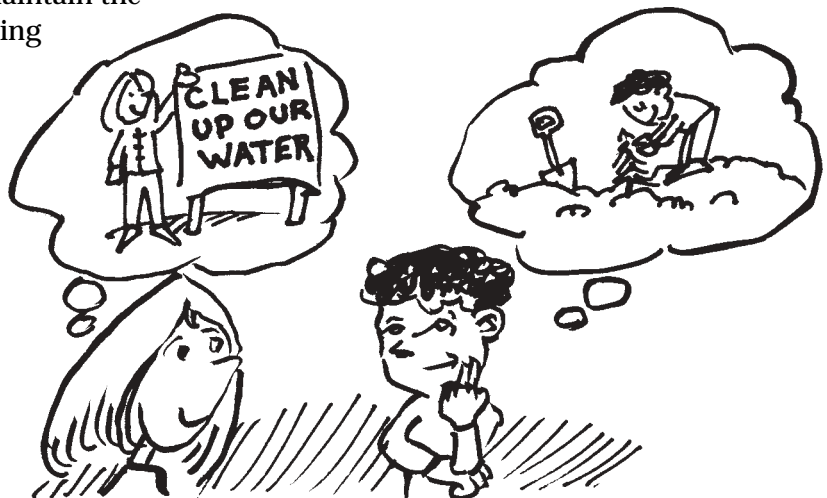
Section 3 – Action Project Tool Kit – provides skill-building activities to help students practice the skills they need to be effective in their projects.

Section 4 – Case Studies – is a selection of real life student action projects to instruct and inspire.

Section 5 – Resources – directs you to reference materials on action learning and a list of organizations that can support you and your students.

This Guide – Who’s Involved?

Leap Into Action! is a collaboration between the British Columbia Conservation Foundation (BCCF) and WILD BC. It grew out of the Eco Education program administered by the BCCF, and is an important tool that will help maintain the legacy of Eco Education while building on the professional development delivery model of Wild BC.



INTRODUCTION For the Teacher

LEAP INTO ACTION!

SIMPLE STEPS TO ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION



Making Connections

Check *Resources*, p. 73, to get contact information on any of these organizations.

Leap Into Action! Partners

Leap Into Action! was created through a partnership:

BC Conservation Foundation (BCCF) is dedicated to the conservation and stewardship of British Columbia's ecosystems and species. They undertake projects in fish, wildlife habitat inventories, research, enhancement, restoration, resource stewardship and environmental education.

Wild BC is a BC government-sponsored education program that receives its base funding from our main partner, the Habitat Conservation Trust Fund. Wild BC provides quality environmental education programs and resource materials to teachers and other educators across BC through professional development workshops. This "train-the-trainer" strategy has built a successful network of educators across the province who can use their teaching skills and knowledge to create a broader understanding of the natural world.

Other Supporters

Funding for this guide was also provided by:

- The Georgia Basin Ecosystem Initiative, a federal and provincial government initiative that is actively working through partnerships to achieve clean air and clean water, protect habitat and species and promote sustainable communities.
- BC Ministry of Water, Land and Air Protection
- Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC)

Keep in Touch!

Good luck with your action projects, and please contact us at Eco Education BC to let us know how they turn out. Your project may serve as a model for other classes and groups to get active!

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