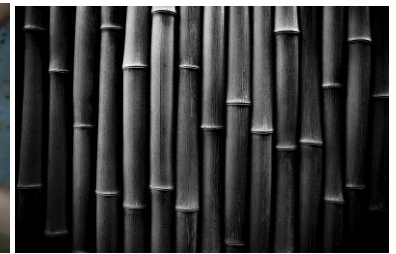


Students for Sustainable Cities

A program of Keystone Science School



If they are to become truly sustainable, **America's cities need creative thinking.** Students for Sustainable Cities enables teachers to explore with their students the ways environmental health, social well-being, and economic vitality are interconnected.



Grounded in scientific investigations and aligned with National Education Standards, Students for Sustainable Cities creates opportunities for teachers to guide their students to pursue sustainability projects in their communities. By applying inquiry-based learning practices, critical thinking skills, and democratic processes, teachers and their students develop actionable strategies to analyze and address sustainability needs.

Your Sponsorship Will:

Provide direct support to teachers and students

At a time when school systems across the nation are struggling financially, your sponsorship provides teachers and students in your community with a valuable, practical educational opportunity at no cost to them.

Improve instruction

As a result of this program, participants will improve their understanding of nonbiased problem-solving and concepts

related to sustainability. Your sponsorship will directly improve the quality of instruction and learning in your local schools.

Support national education standards

Our program aligns to national and regional education standards in a variety of disciplines, including language arts, math, science, and social studies. Our curriculum is non-biased and incorporates the Three E's of Sustainability: Environment, Economics and Social Equity.

Encourage students to think outside the classroom

We're dedicated to teaching critical thinking and inspiring community action. Each teacher and student team attending Students for Sustainable Cities will plan and implement a sustainability action project with their class in a local community.

Develop your community's future workforce

Our programs incorporate Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) initiatives designed to

spark student's interest in these subjects. Your support of local students is also an investment in your community's future math and science professionals.

Build community capacity around sustainability issues

Your support creates opportunities to engage your community, promoting a sense of goodwill and strong relationships with local teachers, students, community organizations, corporate employees, and local leaders. Each action project implemented by students and teachers will foster community engagement around specific sustainability issues in local communities.

As a result of a single Students for Sustainability training, 500—1,000 students will engage in a community sustainability action project.



Keystone
Science
School

Progressive Educational Components

Non-biased Approach

Teachers and students are introduced to a new way of thinking about their approach to contentious issues. They learn strategies to identify and remove their own bias in order to facilitate inquiry and critical thinking.

Systems Thinking and Sustainability Framework

Our programs incorporate the 3E's of sustainability—Environment, Economics and Social Equity—within a systems approach as a basis for examining issues and making informed decisions.

Scientific Process

Our curricula are based on a scientific process that includes historical information, hard science data collection, and social perspectives.

Open-ended

Our format allows participants to solve problems in a variety of creative ways based on the evidence and data they have collected - very different from the standard "cookbook" approach.

Service Learning Opportunities

We encourage participants and their students to use the knowledge they have gained to become active citizens of their communities.

Standards-based

Our curricula is aligned to national and regional education standards in a variety of disciplines, including language arts, math, science, and social studies.

Infusion of 21st Century Global Competition Skills

We incorporate 21st Century skills and concepts, including Global Awareness; Financial, Economic, Business and Entrepreneurial Literacy; Civic Literacy; Learning and Innovation; Technology, Communication and Media; and Life and Career Skills.

Program Process and Implementation

The program's structure and content enables educators to easily transfer these new skills to their classrooms and community.

Students for Sustainable Cities' teachers use the framework below, developed by professional educators and facilitators, to guide them as they implement new classroom plans and activities that address local sustainability issues. Each step of the progression incorporates hands-on activities designed to relate to the students' world, and the educational activities, software, and content materials provided throughout the Institute will equip teachers with the tools to implement an investigation and community action plan with their students.

Program Framework

- Set a goal (vision) that would improve the sustainability in your community
- Determine criteria (related to 3Es) that are important to reaching your goal
- Examine potential actions that would help attain your goal
- Collect data related to those potential actions
- Analyze data
- Rate criteria on the Sustainable Decision Grid
- Determine possible barriers
- Set indicators to measure success
- Present findings
- Begin implementation

Exponential Impact

A single Students for Sustainability training results in the engagement of 500-1,000 students in a community sustainability action project. Additionally, each teacher will be provided the resources to train their colleagues, increasing participation and impact in the projects that are developed and implemented within communities.

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