“We’re planting trees to help climate change.”

“Out whole school will be helping to save the world.”

“We’ve talked to restaurants and local organizations about not using straws.”

“I don’t buy plastic bottles. I don’t use plastic bottles at all.”

**WHAT’S INSIDE:**
- Extensive lists of what students can do to encourage your town, businesses, schools, and more to reduce CO2 emissions
- Tools to brainstorm further action
this page intentionally left blank!
MORE IDEAS ABOUT WHAT YOU CAN DO!

Visit your Town Meeting, County Council or Town Council and ask them, “What are you doing to prepare for and protect us from climate change?” “What are you doing to reduce CO2 emissions?”

You can start a campaign for your town to:
- install electric plug-ins for hybrid cars around town
- convert their bus fleet to electric buses
- transform the town’s energy source to renewables
- change any ordinances that prohibit solar panels in any communities
- install solar panels on your school, town buildings, the town landfill
- purchase wind or solar power
- offer incentives for citizens to install solar panel
- offer tax credits and help for people to make homes more energy efficient
- ban styrofoam and switch to reusable
- ban plastic bags
- provide filling stations to fill up canteens with spring water or filtered water
- educate the community about carrying their own reusable water bottle
- ban plastic drinking straws
- ask local restaurants to stop automatically putting plastic straws in drinks
- pass a tree ordinance that prohibits cutting of trees over a certain size without a permit
- plant trees to create an urban tree canopy to absorb CO2 and reduce the need for air conditioning by shading homes, other buildings and parking lots
- give out energy-saving light bulbs and kits to help homeowners reduce their energy use and energy bills
- create a climate resiliency plan
- hire a sustainability coordinator
- create a climate change response plan to deal with extreme weather events
- have conservation education as part of the curriculum
- have civic engagement curriculum in every school
- teach virtues such as “be nice, be kind to yourself, to others and the planet”
- make it easier for people to register to vote and help register voters yourself.
Start a campaign to encourage your local businesses to:
- install solar panel canopies on their parking lots to collect energy from the sun and shade cars
- install electric car plug-ins under solar canopies and in parking lots
- create priority parking for electric vehicles
- create a sustainability plan and get suggestions from students

Start a club or other campaign and:
- think up good one-liners for bumper stickers such as: “The younger you are the more you care.” “Address Climate Change” “Sustainability starts at the Kitchen Table” “Climate change is the real job-killer” “I Want a Future” “Love your children – Address climate change” “Create a Culture for Climate Action” “Localize Our Food System” “Let’s Deal with Reality” “Ask me About Solarize – (your town); “You can make it happen” “Green-Up our transportation” “Addressing Climate change is good for your Health” “What About the Children?” “Where Are We Children on Your List of Priorities?” “We Represent the Future” “We Want a Climate-Healthy School” “Power-up on Renewable Energy” “Put a price on carbon emissions”
- start a campaign to save conservation land in your community
- Brainstorm ways to save the rainforest
- get palm oil out of Girl Scout cookies
- plant trees in your community (sign onto Plant for the Planet)
- convince your school board to pass a resolution recognizing climate change as a children’s issue and resolving to establish a Climate Change Committee to develop recommendations for taking action on climate change in the school district. (for a template, google Schools for Climate Action)

Start a campaign to encourage your school to:
- replace all light bulbs with energy-efficient light bulbs
- reduce their energy consumption
- replace their bus fleet with electric buses
- facilitate students biking or walking to school
- engage students in doing a school energy audit
- change the school culture to encourage saving energy – and money
- prohibit school buses and cars from idling outside school
- invite your congresspeople to visit the school and ask them what they are doing to address climate change
- reduce the waste stream by recycling everything recyclable
- reduce and compost food waste
- create habitat for wildlife affected by climate change
- plant a butterfly garden to create Monarch butterfly food and habitat

More ideas to green your school can be found on the Young Voices for the Planet Youth Action Map, at Schools for Climate Action and at Green Schools Alliance which connects more than 8,800 schools, districts, and organizations worldwide, representing more than 5 million students in 46 U.S. states, the District of Columbia, and 80 countries. Participating schools share sustainability practices and reduce their environmental footprint.
YOUR TURN:
BRAINSTORM AND WRITE DOWN: WHAT ELSE CAN YOU, YOUR TOWN, YOUR SCHOOL OR YOUR COMMUNITY DO TO REDUCE ENERGY USE AND GLOBAL WARMING GASES AND EDUCATE PEOPLE?

WHAT COULD …

… your school do?

… your parents, families or guardians do?

… the businesses in your town could do?

… religious institutions, churches, mosques, synagogues?

… the medical community - doctors, nurses and the hospital?

… your state government do? [put a price on carbon?]