

GEO-GREEN

Natural & Human Systems

Sustainability

Climate Change

Resource Management

Stewardship & Citizenship

There are billions of people on our planet. We all have needs that must be met by using our land, water and air resources. Geographers were among the first to sound the alarm that human-induced changes to the environment were beginning to threaten the balance of life itself. As geographers we are once again leading the way. As climate change, water issues and general environmental concerns become mainstream and trendy in the community and the media, we can be proud of the fact that Geography students have been learning about and discussing these topics for some time now – it is embedded in our curriculum and our daily practice! It is heartening to hear our students articulate their knowledge in such topics and be able to take part in meaningful debate about future outcomes of these issues.

Geography examines and synthesizes the interrelations of issues! Geography examines the environment from a uniquely geographic approach -- considering both the physical and human perspectives.

ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION IN GEOGRAPHY

Geography brings several perspectives to help students understand environmental processes and issues including:

- economic, social & political implications;
- human-environmental interactions and connections;
- interdependence;
- local, regional & global scales.

Through this understanding of processes and interactions, students will be able to make predictions and to develop practical and realistic solutions to support actions for current and future problems.

Environment is one of the 6 “fundamental concepts” identified in the Geography provincial policy documents. Over 500 provincial learning expectations within Geography from grades 1-12 relate to environmental themes. Geography courses are organized by the following strands:

- Geographic Foundations: Space and Systems
- Human-Environment Interactions
- Global Connections
- Understanding and Managing Change
- Methods of Geographic Inquiry and Communication

All five strands are essential to any understanding of environmental issues that face us now and in the future!



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GeoGreen

**ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION
IN GEOGRAPHY**



“Students should have a significant environmental education with a focus on sustainability and stewardship. Students should learn about their environment from highly skilled and qualified Geography teachers who have specialized training and a long-standing experience teaching environmental and other complex geographic issues.” - O.A.G.E.E. (2007)

GEOGREEN – ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION IN GEOGRAPHY

GEOGREEN CONCEPT	GRADES 1-6	GRADES 7 & 8	GRADE 9	GRADES 11 & 12
NATURAL & HUMAN SYSTEMS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Local Communities -Similarities & Differences -Regions -Physical Regions of Canada -International Connections 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Economic Systems -Migration -Geographic Concept: Environment -Environmental Event Report -Patterns of Physical Geography -Patterns of Human Settlement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Characteristics of Natural Systems -Characteristics of Human Systems -Ecozones 	<u>Strand:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Geographic Foundations: Space & Systems
SUSTAINABILITY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Physical Environment and Meeting Human Needs -Factors that Explain Location -Cause & Effect – Environment & Economy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Interaction: Humans & Environment -Renewable vs Non- Renewable Resources -Future Availability of Resources -Economic Relationships 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Impact of Human Activities on the Environment -Influence of Natural Systems on Economy -Ecological Footprint 	<u>Strands:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Human-Environment Interactions -Understanding & Managing Change
CLIMATE CHANGE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Impact of Environment on People’s Lives -People in Different Climates: Comparison -Canada’s International Efforts 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -World Climate Patterns & Factors -Impact of Natural Phenomenon on People 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Canada’s International Agreements -Evaluate Canada’s Role -Consequences of Human Activities -Impact of Change on Economy 	<u>Strands:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Geographic Foundations -Understanding & Managing Change -Global Connections
RESOURCE MANAGEMENT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Urban vs Rural Communities -Ontario’s Natural Resources: Use & Management 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Agriculture -Acquiring, Using & Managing Natural Resources -Land Use 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Megaprojects -Renewable vs Non- Renewable Resources & Energy -Urbanization 	<u>Strands:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Human-Environment Interaction -Understanding & Managing Change
STEWARDSHIP & CITIZENSHIP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Ask questions -Personal links to natural environment -Responsible Citizenship 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Environmental Issues: Multiple Opinions & Points of View 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Government Role in Environmental Protection -Individual Role -Develop/Propose Solutions -Multiple Perspectives -Geographic Inquiry 	<u>Strand:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Methods of Geographic Inquiry & Communication
SOCIAL STUDIES: HISTORY & GEOGRAPHY			CANADIAN & WORLD STUDIES	