



Inspiration for environmental education

When the aim is to increase public awareness and knowledge about environmental issues and challenges, children are an important target group. They are already important consumers, and they are the decision makers of tomorrow. Moreover, research shows that they are often more adaptive than adults to information about the environment and about the importance of changing behaviour. They are also an important information vehicle to reach their parents.

A lot of environmental education concepts and material have been developed over the years, and much of this can be found on the web. The following are but a few examples:

Solar Schools Forum (<http://ssf.ises.org/ssf/eseeef.xsp>)

Solar Schools Forum is an open and free source of inspiration for teachers. It is organised by the European Sustainable Energy Education Forum (ESEEF), which is a network of organisations and institutions working with sustainable energy and education at primary and secondary school levels. The site provides educational material, good practice examples and a collection of useful links.

Green Pack (<http://www.rec.org/REC/Programs/Greenpack/>)

The Green Pack is a multi-media environmental education curriculum kit developed by the Regional Environmental Centre for Central and Eastern Europe (REC). It is intended for secondary school teachers and students. Each Green Pack focuses on a particular aspect of environmental protection and sustainable development and includes a variety of educational materials.

European Environmental Toolkit for Citizens

(http://ec.europa.eu/environment/toolkits/index_en.htm)

An effective way for teachers to find more inspiration for environmental education is the European Environmental Toolkit for Citizens. This tool allows you to search for toolkits corresponding to different search criteria including target groups. The target groups include teachers, children and students. 42 toolkits correspond to the search criteria *teachers*; 58 toolkits to *children* and 30 to *students*.

This newsflash is issued by the EECN which is DG Environment's support structure for European Environmental Communication Networks.

Visit the web site of the EECN on:

http://ec.europa.eu/environment/networks/index_en.htm to learn more about the activities of the networks and read newsflashes previously released.



European Environmental Toolkit for Citizens

The aim of this site is to help European citizens find out what they can do, on a day-to-day basis, to help improve the state of our planet.



Did you know that half of the greenhouse gas emissions in the world result from heating homes and using private transport? Today's environmental problems are therefore not just caused by commerce, industry and farming - the way we behave in our daily lives has a role to play in changing our environment.

