

The green brigade

Objective

The creation of a green brigade made up of students is a very important first step as it will allow you to use this educational kit to its full potential. The goal of creating a brigade is to empower the students as much as possible when doing the challenges. Here you will find all the necessary information to set up your brigade. Procedures to follow are suggested, but it will of course be up to you to make adjustments based on your realities!

Composition

The brigade's composition may vary greatly from one community to another. The key to success is to get the students to participate as much as possible! For each challenge you decide to complete in class, you will need at least two brigadiers to assist you. You can, for example, explain the upcoming challenge in class and choose the interested students for each challenge and then create a new brigade for each challenge, or you can create a "brigade committee" with the interested students, or any other option that's right for you.

It could also be a good idea to include the school custodian on your committee!

Its role

Once the brigade composition that makes the most sense for you has been chosen, it is time to organize a first meeting with the brigadiers to determine their role during the challenges. In the kit, you will find a selection of materials to better guide their actions. Choose the materials that suit your needs!

Materials

In each of the kit's bags, you will find:

- **Brigade sheet**

This sheet is intended specifically for the students who form the brigade. They will therefore be able to take the time to understand their role and develop an action plan to establish the actions that they must carry out during the challenge.

- **Green tickets**

The brigadiers will be able to award symbolic green tickets to their fellow students or staff members for good behaviours. For example, if they discover someone picking up garbage on the floor and putting it in the garbage can, if they see someone bringing in a reusable bottle instead of a plastic one, and so on. You are free to set the rules to reward good deeds. The green tickets are available in PDF format on the flash drive if you want to print more.

- **The environmental star**

The brigade could make an honourable mention for the person who shined the most over the course of the month. The "environmental star" poster could be displayed in the classroom with the photo or name of the selected person.

- **"Did you know?" booklet**

Each booklet features "Did you know?" questions on the theme of the challenge. The brigade can take the booklet for the selected challenge and educate the students of the class on the theme. For example, the brigadiers could decide to read the questions in front of the class, write them on the board, create their own materials based on the questions (sketch, posters, drawings, etc.) or read them over the intercom.

The green brigade

Materials (continued)

- **Awareness materials**

The brigadiers can be tasked with putting the posters on display above the garbage and recycling bins. They can also draw inspiration from them to develop their own materials.

To go further

The role of the brigade is only limited by your imagination! Here are some ideas for activities to do with the brigade:

- Set up booths at school events to raise awareness among students and staff on the importance of waste management.
- Contact a member of the nation band council who is responsible for the environment so that they can come in and make a presentation in the classroom.
- Create personalized posters to display in the school's common areas (cafeteria, bathrooms, library, etc.).
- Visit the staff rooms to encourage staff to apply the 4R-E principle. For example, they can be asked to use reusable coffee mugs and water bottles, posters can be displayed near printers on the importance of reducing paper consumption, etc.
- Organize a visit to the nearest ecocentre and/or sorting centre.

And now, let's do something!
Ready, set....

Reduce!

