

Parent/Family Sustainability Survey



Dear Parents,

Your student(s) are about to begin a unit of study on sustainability and environmental stewardship. To assist with the project, please answer each of the following question about your “green” practices and thoughts. There are no “right answers” and your responses will be used to help guide the teaching and learning. Return the survey with your child to school and the students with the help of the teacher will tally and record the results. **PLEASE complete and return within 5 days.**

Circle the numbers that correspond with the column heading that best represent your answers:

1. How often, if at all, do you consume each of the following types of food and beverages?

	Never	Less than once a month	Once or twice per month	Once per week	Several times per week	Daily
a) Imported foods	6	5	4	3	2	1
b) Locally grown foods (e.g. from your province/state or region)	6	5	4	3	2	1
c) Chicken	6	5	4	3	2	1
d) Beef	1	2	3	4	5	6
e) Fish and seafood	6	5	4	3	2	1
f) Fruits and vegetables	6	5	4	3	2	1
g) Food you grow yourself	6	5	4	3	2	1
h) Bottled water	6	5	4	3	2	1

Next we would like to ask you some questions about your household and primary residence.

2. How many rooms in total are there in your home or primary residence?

1-4 (1) 4-6 (2) 6-8 (3) 8-10 (4) 10+ (5)

3. If you have an air conditioner, how often to you use it in the warmer season?

All day/All night (5)

Some days and some night (4-8 hours) (3)

Every day and night for 5-10 hours (4)

Only on limited occasions (once or twice a week for a couple of hours or all night when it is very hot.) (2)

Harley ever (maybe once or twice a month for a limited time.) (1)

4. Please indicate if the following change to your residence has been made in the past year.

		Made in past 1 year	Planned for the next 1 year	Not made or planned
a)	Installed solar panels to heat water	1	3	5
b)	Installed solar panels for electricity	1	3	5
c)	Installed a rain-water collection systems	1	3	5

5. Please rate the following:

	Never	Once a year or less	A few times per year	At least once a month	At least once a week	Every day or most days
a) Have you begun to keep a bucket in the shower/tub to collect the water while you are waiting for the hot water flow? (If no, skip to the next question.)	6	5	4	3	2	1
b) Have you ever thought about the amount of water that goes unused while waiting for the hot water to flow?	1	2	3	4	5	6

6. In total, how many refrigerators are owned, rented, or leased by members of your household?

1 (1) 2 (2) 3 (3) 4 (4) 5+ (5)

Next are some questions about transportation and how you get around.

7. Please indicate how often, if at all, you use each of the following forms of transportation on average.

	Never	Once a year or less	A few times per year	At least once a month	At least once a week	Every day or most days
a) Driving alone in a car or truck	6	5	4	3	2	1
b) Public transportation (for example on buses, trains, subways, streetcars, or trams)	1	2	3	4	5	6
c) Airplanes	6	5	4	3	2	1

8. How certain are you of the ability to recycle of each of the following:

	Very certain	Fairly certain	Could go either way	Not very sure	Have no idea
a) Newspaper	5	4	3	2	1
b) Packaging that looks and feels like paper	5	4	3	2	1
c) Milk or juice cartons	5	4	3	2	1
d) Plastics water bottles	5	4	3	2	1
e) Softer plastics (like a yogurt container)	5	4	3	2	1
f) Tetra-pac containers	1	2	3	4	5
g) An old metal key	5	4	3	2	1
h) Old batteries	1	2	3	4	5

9. Please estimate the approximate number of miles that you personally have driven (or will drive TODAY):

More than 60 (6) 40 (5) 20 (4) 10 (3) Less than 6 (2) None (1)

10. Please indicate whether your household contains any of the following, or if you intend to acquire any of the following within the next year.

- 3 - Yes, your household currently contains one
- 2 - Does not contain, but you **intend** to acquire one in the **next year**
- 1 - No, does not contain and you **do not** intend to acquire one in the **next year**

	1	2	3
a) An energy-saving television labeled as more efficient than others, using such logos as the "Energy Star"	1	2	3
b) An especially fuel-efficient vehicle, such as one with a hybrid engine or alternative fuel engine	1	2	3

11. Please indicate how often you do each of the following things. Please use the scale provided where 1 means "never," 3 means "sometimes," and 5 means "all of the time."

	1	2	3	4	5
a) Keep the heating or cooling in your home or workplace at low settings to save energy	1	2	3	4	5
b) If distance allows, walk or ride a bike to your destination	1	2	3	4	5
c) Buy certain products specifically because they are better for the environment than other products	1	2	3	4	5
d) Avoid products packaged in excessive packaging	1	2	3	4	5
e) Wash laundry in cold water rather than warm or hot water specifically to save energy	1	2	3	4	5

12. Please indicate to what extent you agree or disagree with each of the following statements. Please use a scale of 1 to 5 where 1 means that you "strongly disagree" and 5 means that you "strongly agree" with the statement.

	1	2	3	4	5
a) I choose to live close to the places I need to travel to on most days specifically to minimize the impact my transportation habits have on the environment.	1	2	3	4	5

- b) The extra cost of environmentally friendly products is not worth it to me. 1 2 3 4 5
- c) I prefer to repair something when it is broken rather than replacing it with a new one. 1 2 3 4 5

13. Have you heard of the five plastic ocean gyres? How much do you know about them?

- A lot! (1) I think that I know what they are (3)
 A fair amount (2) I am not sure what they are (4) I have NO idea what they are (5)

14. Despite the debate over what is causing climate change, have you personally experienced that the sun feels stronger and hotter and/or overall temperatures are getting warmer?

- No (4) Possibly (3) I think so (2) Absolutely (1)

15. Have you heard about the movement to cut back on the amount of beef that you eat each week? Are you: Consistently doing this now (1) Doing it, but not consistently (2)

- Thinking about doing it (3) Have thought about it a couple of times (4)
 Not going to do it (5)

Total:

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PLEASE return this survey with your child to school within 5 days.

Overall results will be shared at project completion.

Thanks!

In case you were wondering, the lower that you score on each question, the more environmental conscious and sustainable you and your lifestyle are.

Interesting fact: US citizens as a whole, scored in 17th place for “green” knowledge and actions among people in both the developed and developing countries throughout the world. For more information, statistics and facts, visit the Greendex website at: <http://environment.nationalgeographic.com/environment/greendex>