



wildsight

BEYOND RECYCLING FINAL REPORT
2020/2021

SUBMITTED BY

Monica Nissen, Wildsight Education Program Manager
Dawn Deydey, Beyond Recycling Coordinator

SUBMITTED TO

Todd Johnston, Environmental Services Coordinator
Regional District of Central Kootenay

SUMMARY

Beyond Recycling (BR) is a classroom-based environmental education program, developed and delivered in the Columbia Basin by Wildsight. Passionate local BR educators throughout the region animate **20 lessons** that address environmental issues and inspire students to take positive action and find creative solutions to live more sustainably.

The 2020/21 school year was the **twelfth year** of BR delivery on a regional scale, offered in communities throughout the Columbia Basin.

Our team of **11 Educators** partnered with **18 classroom teachers** to deliver the Beyond Recycling program. Our BR educators completed a total of **40 blog posts** to share the exciting activities that happened in the classroom. These can be viewed at www.beyondrecycling.ca/blog.

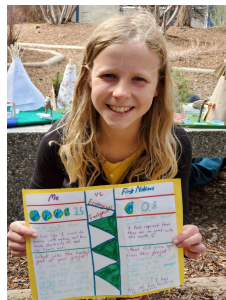
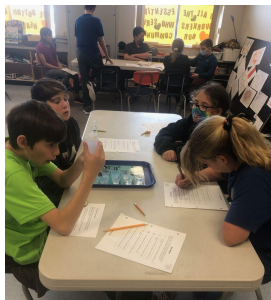
This year, Beyond Recycling was delivered: in **11 communities** in **18 classrooms** in **16 schools** to **434 students**

Our new online Earth Day program engaged: **59 teachers** in **31 schools**

The COVID pandemic continued to impact school-based programming in 2020/21. External educators were not allowed in many schools. To meet the challenges, our professional and passionate BR educators were able to pivot, adapting our engaging in-person program facilitation to either outdoors or online. In some cases, scheduling was shifted to more concentrated delivery in spring, or with flexible, project-based alternative programming to accommodate teachers' needs and requests in the difficult times of COVID precautions. We are pleased to report that despite the challenges, BR continued in schools across the region in 2020-21.

Wildsight would like to acknowledge the generous support of the RDCK in bringing this educational initiative to the students of our region. We value the partnership that has been developed over the years, and that continues to work effectively.

Support from the following additional funders has made this program possible: Columbia Basin Trust, Columbia Shuswap Regional District, Regional District of Fraser-Fort George(CSRD), TD Friends of the Environment, BC Gaming Commission



PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Created in the Kootenays, Beyond Recycling (BR) is a school-based environmental education program. It provides solutions-focussed curriculum that allows students to recognize the impacts of their lifestyle choices and highlights the importance of individual action. All BR lessons are based on scientifically sound knowledge and integrate locally relevant and recent information, particularly around issues of climate change, energy and waste reduction. Lessons are designed to complement the new BC curriculum, with connections to science, social studies, language arts, math and the core competencies.

Twenty lessons are brought into the classroom (Grades 5-7) weekly by a local BR educator. Several optional special lessons involving field trips and Earth Day activities make for a potential total of 27 available lessons.

Our interactive lessons involve learning through inquiry and investigation, using experiential activities, discussion, small-group tasks and technology. Our goal is to encourage students to think 'beyond' simply recycling — taking effective, positive environmental action and finding solutions to live more sustainably. BR's environmental education lessons focus on increasing awareness and student empowerment. Lessons address environmental issues and aim to remove barriers to motivate environmentally appropriate choices and behaviors.

Key aspects of Beyond Recycling include:

- **Lesson plans** and other online resources in the online BR Manual are housed on the password protected interactive website at www.beyondrecycling.ca
- **Prop kits** contain supplies to facilitate each lesson and are cared for by each Beyond Recycling Educator
- **BR Educator** team is comprised of passionate professional educators who visit classrooms weekly throughout the school year
- **Teacher Taught lessons** offer classroom teachers the opportunity to teach select BR lessons
- **Student web pages** contain online resources (videos, links, activities) that build on each of the Beyond Recycling lessons
- **School blogs** capture highlights of the program, and serve as a good way for students, teachers and the public to see what the schools are doing
- **Field trips** to transfer stations, landfills and recycling centers, as well as local farms and grocery stores are always a highlight of the program
- **Extension Hours** Each educator has additional hours to developing additional activities specific to that class

2020/2021 PROGRAM DELIVERY *RDCK SCHOOLS ARE HIGHLIGHTED BELOW

Community	School	Teacher(s)	Educator	# Students
Castlegar	Kinnaird Elementary	Ms. Foster	Mary Searchfield	26
Cranbrook	TM Roberts	Catherine Laporte	Kim Urbaniak	25
Cranbrook	Gordon Terrace	Jennifer Doll	Kim Urbaniak	26
Erickson	Erickson Elementary	Gillian Cooper	Melissa Flint	23
Erickson	Erickson Elementary	Christopher Davies	Melissa Flint	23
Fernie	Isabella Dicken	Patrice Oscienny	Janelle Park	27
Fernie	Ecole Isabella Dicken	Rhonda Shippy	Janelle Park	26
Golden	Lady Grey	Jocelyn Wilson	Carrie Ferguson	28
Golden	Nicholson Elementary	Runa Bjarnason-Wilson	Carrie Ferguson	26
Invermere	J. Alfred Laird	Kristen Curry	Jesse Caza	23
Kimberley	Mckim Middle School	Ms. Gunn	Kim Urbaniak	26
Kimberley	McKim Middle School	Julie Sellers	Patty Kolesnichenko	26
McBride	McBride Centennial	Marlene Walchuk	Karen Doughty	26
Nelson	St. Joseph	Jenifer Graham	Mary Searchfield	22
Nelson	Redfish Elementary	Maggie Hodgson	Mary Searchfield	22
Revelstoke	Begbie View Elementary	Emily Holmes	Jade Harvey	21
Revelstoke	Columbia Park	Alison Hall	Jade Harvey	19
Valemount	Valemount Elementary	Maymie Tegar	Karen Doughty	21
			TOTAL	434

11 communities
18 classes

16 schools
434 students

REGIONAL EARTH DAY

	SD5	SD6	SD8	SD10	SD19	SD20	other	TOTAL
# of participating teachers	10	5	16	2	3	10	11	59

59 teachers

31 schools

EDUCATOR TEAM

The Educator Team is what makes Beyond Recycling such a powerful and effective program. In 2020/21, **11 professional environmental educators** from both non-formal and formal education backgrounds brought BR into **18 classrooms** throughout the school year.

The creativity, passion and profound dedication are what make the team dynamic and always welcomed in schools. Teachers, administrators and students continue to rave about the high quality work being delivered. We are also very pleased to have educators in various communities, as they are able to build relationships in their communities and deliver local content and messaging.

Feedback from the BR Educator Team demonstrates their passion and commitment, as well as supports continued development of the program to incorporate best teaching practices and current information.

- “Beyond Recycling is an in-depth program looking at how grade 5 and 6 students relate to the natural world. It offers a good foundation for learning about interconnections across species and topics, all from the realistic perspective of an 11 or 12 year old’s life. The associated action projects are a very meaningful way to put theory into practice and learn first hand that not all solutions are difficult or time consuming.” - Kim U
- BR “offers teachers and students an opportunity to explore some many valuable concepts and ideas. The program also offers fantastic variety and content that connects with the core competencies of the BC curriculum . Students have the chance to really build a strong foundation of environmental knowledge, ideas, vocabulary and hopefully inspires them to make good environmental sustainable choices throughout life.” - Patty K
- “BR is important because it teaches youth that they have an important voice in their communities. It teaches them that they can question, and change the world around them. That it is possible to create kinder, more connected communities.” - Melissa F

COVID-19 IMPACT

The COVID-19 pandemic continued to affect our schools, students and communities in the 2020/21 school year. We once again pivoted the Beyond Recycling program to meet the restrictions and continue to offer the program. This year was more challenging as outside educators were not allowed into most schools, despite them being open and running. This required BR to adapt the program to online or outdoor classroom facilitation.

ADAPTATION

The Wildsight Education team assessed the 27 BR lessons for their ability to adapt to online or outdoor learning. Educators then took the lessons to the classes. Some lessons were brought to the classroom via Zoom or others taught the lesson outdoors (some in the middle of winter). This was incredibly challenging for our BR Educators and classroom Teachers. The BR Team worked to find innovative ways to modify program delivery, including inviting teachers to “choose

their own adventure” with modified programs and by participating in the regional Earth Day Challenge. Educators described their experience below:

- “At the beginning of the program, I taught online. This was tough but we managed to do our best. I spent the remainder of the program in person and did make changes to the program to adapt to COVID restrictions and the dynamics of the class.”
- “All 3 BRs I taught were 'choose your own adventure': 1 of 4 lessons piggybacking with a student teacher's unit on globalisation; 1 of 8 lesson (4 weeks) working together with the teacher who was trying to bring the Cool It climate program to her class; and 1 of 10 weeks with a solid supporter of BR who picked the lessons she most wanted (we did the Stuff and Waste 'unit', Our Water, Climate Change, We Are Nature. I really liked the flexibility of this method, especially working with teachers who wove the BR concepts into what they were teaching (BR 1 and 2) and then with a champion teacher who always reviewed and prepped the class on her time.”
- “It was fun to be able to do an all outdoor delivery. It really forced me to be able to tell the most salient points without relying on the powerpoint so much. It also required more attention to the weather — if it was cold, we couldn't sit for too long talking. The school had a variety of outdoor covered spaces, so it worked well. It could be tricky at some of the other schools that don't have this.”

FIELD TRIPS

Most field trips were not allowed this year as they required bussing. That meant most classes had to cancel their Waste Field Trips to their local landfill and their Real Food Field Trips that took them to local farms. While 2 classes did have the opportunity to visit their landfills, many others instead took field trips to local gardens and into nearby nature areas.

TEACHER FEEDBACK

Participating teachers continue to give the program rave reviews. Some highlights are expressed in the 2020/21 BR Teacher quotes below:

- “The Beyond Recycling program is an important piece of building a generation of environmental stewards. The kids gain knowledge, have access to experts and are able to see how they can create change. The Beyond Recycling program is a refreshing break from text books and Bill Nye. The hands-on, dynamic programming makes for deep and long lasting learning!” - Emily H
- “The resources were very thorough and loved that they were applicable to many different subject areas. I also loved that kids were able to make strong personal connections. I know it influenced some of them to be more aware of their environmental impact.” - Maymie T
- “Absolutely an amazing program! We are so fortunate to have it! A huge thank you to the sponsors who feel it is important to educate our future community leaders on the use of our resources.” - Patrice O

- “I’ve appreciated how BR has considered the BC curriculum and designed the program around relevant core competencies. The program touched multiple social studies and science outcomes. Not only did the program satisfy curricular targets, the program was place-based and culturally sensitive. The kids took away diverse perspectives on sustainability and left feeling empowered to create change.” - Emily H
- “Beyond Recycling has inspired my students to think more critically about the food and products they purchase every day. It empowered them to reflect on their own wants and needs. As a new teacher, I found it was the perfect “glue” that I used to tie all of my lessons into. I was able to connect the content to subject areas across the curriculum such as art and writing. I wish this program could be offered to all schools across the province!” - Maymie T
- “The biggest take-away that I noticed from my kids was their ability to recognize the complexity of environmental issues. They were able to recognize their own roles in contributing to climate change, but also engage in action oriented projects. Being in a resource community, the kids had to confront the social, economic, political and ecological needs.” - Emily H
- “Beyond Recycling brings awareness of how people/the world have changed over the course of years. It brings awareness to the things that we can change should we put our minds to it. It makes children think of how their actions can make a difference. - Jen G.

TEACHER TAUGHT LESSONS

All classroom teachers who host the Beyond Recycling program in their classroom also have the opportunity to teach four specially designed Teacher Taught lessons as part of the program. Teachers taught 50 Beyond Recycling lessons throughout the school year.

The goal of this ‘co-led’ delivery model is to empower teachers to develop their own knowledge and comfort level with the content, with the hope that they may continue to incorporate some of the key messages into their own evolving practice. As well, this model increases the number of total programs we are able to deliver with the budget we have available.

ONLINE ENGAGEMENT

The Beyond Recycling website is the epicenter of all things BR. Our password-protected site provides BR Educators access to their lesson resources (videos, slideshows, worksheets, lesson plans) and BR Teachers access their teacher taught lesson resources. The public side of the website offers BR students access to engaging student content for each of the lessons and over **40 blog** posts by our educators highlighting what happened in their program over the school year.

In the 2020/21 school year, we had: **2,885** users of the Beyond Recycling website for **4,307** sessions with **11,983** page views. Our new regional BR Earth Day program resource page was viewed 142 times.

ECOCHALLENGE ACTIVITIES

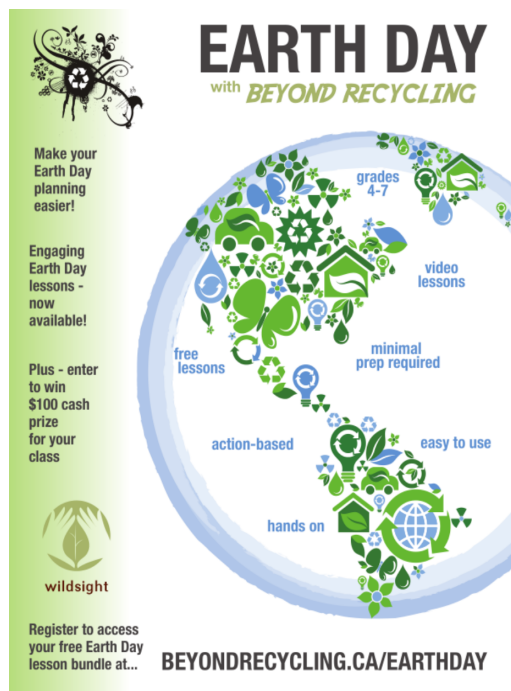
As part of the BR program, educators were allocated EcoChallenge hours to facilitate and support activities based on the interests and capacity of the teacher and students. This flexible time allows for some freedom for the BR educator and class to come up with specific and locally-relevant projects, or to support a deeper dive into a given BR project.

The EcoChallenge includes a series of tested student action projects that is offered to teachers as extension activities and remains one of the key components of Beyond Recycling. Students love the opportunity to make a difference and learn more about the world they live in. Teachers and Educators both recognize the importance of this part of the program and the connection to curriculum that it offers. The Educator comments below describe some of the engaging EcoChallenge projects completed:

- "Waste was a focus in Mrs. Doll's class all year, and to put their learning into action, the students made mittens out of old sweaters. Using second hand wool and fleece sweaters, students started by cutting out their patterns. Once they had 4 sets of material – for two double layered mittens – they got down to work sewing. Hand stitching took a lot of time and focussed energy, but what great results! Now, every student in the class can now say they've reduced the waste headed to the landfill in a creative way."
- "Ms. Tegart's class loves their worms. All year they took care of a worm bin and learned how worms change our food scraps into dirt. We also learned how fast worms can reproduce and spent a class turning one worm bin into two. All that vermicompost was used to grow potatoes in the class. Students also grew their own marigolds to take home for their gardens. This class loved to get their hands dirty and plant their own seeds. This will become a lifelong love of gardening for some of these students. In the end they'd added over 4kg of waste to it."
- "What will our communities look like in 20 years? The students at Erickson Elementary had some great ideas! There were eco-friendly buildings and building codes so that 1 person couldn't live in a mansion by themselves, houses had to be built in proportion to the people occupying them. They had bike, skateboard and horse-back riding pathways through their communities. People could bring their broken down appliances to a repair store instead of throwing them out. They had electric vehicle charging stations, bee sanctuaries, orchards, farms and greenhouses. Community members used reusable bags for shopping, and single use plastic was not allowed in local stores. The students created some truly wonderful places to live! It's so interesting that some of this infrastructure and regulations exist now, and some we will look forward to in the future!"
- "Why just examine your class's garbage when you can look at the entire school's waste? This is what happened today in Ms Hodgson's class, where the school custodians kindly saved ALL the school's garbage from the day before. We learned it's not a job for the faint of heart! We discovered that some work still can be done in the school to remember about what is actually garbage, and what can be diverted from the waste stream (either by choosing bulk or homemade over packaged, choosing to recycle or return scraps and uneaten food, and remembering that just because something is no longer wanted by you, that doesn't necessarily mean it's considered waste by everyone else)."

REGIONAL EARTH DAY CONTEST

Our online ‘Regional Earth Day Contest’ was an excellent way to increase the reach of Beyond Recycling this year, and to create uptake where it was just not viable to deliver “regular” programs due to COVID restrictions. This was facilitated during a difficult time as many teachers were struggling to manage COVID cases in their classrooms, and working within changing restrictions in their schools. **59 teachers** from **31 schools** signed up online to access the online Earth Day resources. A breakdown of school district distribution is included in the table at the bottom of page 8 in this report.



We adapted and repackaged some of our online resources, originally developed last year during school closures, to create an enticing ‘do-it-yourself’ program package for teachers. 6 Earth Day lessons, videos and resources were developed with ease of access for teachers in mind. Lessons included downloadable lessons that were supported by videos and tangible action projects.

This new regional Earth Day program engaged **59 teachers** in **31 schools** across the Columbia Basin region.

As part of the facilitation of the Earth Day Contest, printed posters and letters to teachers and principals were mailed to each school throughout the region. An email list was compiled for all principals and teachers and a series of emails were sent out to these contacts. The promotion of the project took place leading up to Earth Day (April 22nd), with prizes offered to classes for participating.

VIDEO LESSONS

Students watch a video lesson, complete a multi-day project, and then share what they made.

- **Trash2Treasure** – turn waste/recycling/unused items into something useful
- **Communities of the Future** – learn about green communities and build/design a sustainable community
- **True Cost of Food** – learn about food choices then choose to grow/cook their own real food

ECOCHALLENGE INVESTIGATIONS

Students complete a behavior change activity and then report back on what they found and share their experiences.

- **Screen-Free Day EcoChallenge** – pledge to go screen-free for a set time
- **Waste Free Granola Bar EcoChallenge** – make a waste-free snack to put in their lunches
- **Short Shower EcoChallenge** – reduce the length of their showers over a 4-day period

7 teachers were awarded cash prizes for their BR Earth Day project submissions into the Earth Day Contest. Some exemplary projects that were completed include:

- "Our class this year is using towels instead of paper towels. Each student has a towel each day. This has decreased the garbage in our class to a small pail of garbage a day instead of an entire large garbage can a day. We also made crayon holders for our desks with tea cans decorated with colourful tape. Also the students loved the cardboard bike video. They came up with lots of great ideas in our post video discussion. The resources were easy to use and my class was engaged." - A. Smith, Adam Robertson Elementary, SD 8
- "Students chose to participate in the Earth Day challenge with the challenge of their choice: designing community of the future, screen free challenge, granola bar challenge and the short shower challenge. I encouraged students to use whatever materials they wanted to be creative. Some students made short tiktok videos, some did elaborate drawings, some made models, and some simply did the challenge and completed the paper form. It was super fun for students to do and they all felt proud to be thinking about how they can take steps to helping out our Earth. Students would like to buy a tree to plant on our school grounds if we are a winner." - A. Vibe, Nakusp Elementary, SD 10


CONNECTING TO CURRICULUM

Beyond Recycling is an ideal complement to BC's redesigned curriculum, offering numerous opportunities for students and teachers to delve deeper into the learning through inquiry as well as place-based learning. The program spans the disciplines, incorporating Big Ideas in Science, Social Studies, English Language Arts, and Applied Design, Skills, and Technologies, as well as incorporating numerous Core Competencies (in the Thinking, Communication, and most particularly the Personal and Social arenas). The new BC curriculum has been designed with

flexibility and choice in mind, and Beyond Recycling matches this commitment in numerous, exciting ways.

Beyond Recycling

Curricular Connections to Grade 5



Beyond Recycling Lessons	Science			Socials	ADST	Career Ed		Physical & Health Education			English Language Arts	
	Big Ideas	Content	Curricular Competencies	Curricular Competencies	Big Ideas	Content	Curricular Competencies	Big Ideas	Content	Curricular Competencies	Big Ideas	Curricular Competencies
Garbology	x	x	x	x		x			x			x
History of Waste	x	x	x	x								x
Waste Field Trip	x		x					x			x	x
From the Earth	x	x										x
Lifecycle of Stuff	x	x	x			x	x	x				x
It's Plastic World	x		x								x	x
Closing the Loop	x	x						x				x
Paper Making		x		x				x	x			x
Our Climate								x	x			x
Our Energy						x						x
Path of Power	x	x	x							x		
Energy Debates	x	x	x	x		x	x	x				x
Eco Footprint	x	x	x			x		x	x		x	x
Sustainability		x	x	x		x	x					x
Transportation	x		x					x	x			x
Our Water			x	x		x	x					x
Fishing For		x	x	x		x	x					x
True Cost Food			x	x						x	x	x
Food Field Trip			x	x				x		x		x
We Are Nature		x	x									x
EcoChallenge			x	x	x	x	x	x				x
Earth Day			x	x	x	x	x	x			x	x

Please Note: Depending on the specific content taught, or projects completed in your individual classroom, there may be other curricular links met than the ones outlined above.

In particular, the EcoChallenge projects fit very well. EcoChallenges offer the students a chance to take a leadership role, work through the design process to solve a real life problem, and take ecological responsibility for their actions.

These can be done within the class, within the school, and/or at home, with many connections to the curriculum. Most EcoChallenge action projects can address the Core Competencies (Communication, Creative Thinking, Critical Thinking, Positive Personal & Cultural Identity, Personal Awareness & Responsibility), but the strongest link is Social Responsibility.

PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT

The Beyond Recycling program is continually being adapted and improved to ensure we include the most recent and up to date science, teaching methodologies and key messaging on relevant topics from our funding partners and local communities.

Due to the pandemic, this year the program development focused on adapting to outdoor and online facilitation of the program. Although COVID restrictions forced us to make many changes to the program, it also allowed us to discover many opportunities to expand and improve Beyond Recycling facilitation.

To explore and capture the learning we made throughout this year, we hosted 2 full day online workshops to build on educators' experiences and incorporate this learning into the BR program.

During the educator program development sessions, we identified multiple opportunities to guide future program development including exploring offering a more flexible BR program in terms of length, and incorporating opportunities for more outdoor time and movement into BR.

FINANCIAL REPORT

In addition to the Regional District of Central Kootenay, major funders for Beyond Recycling include Columbia Basin Trust, Columbia-Suswap Regional District, Regional District of Fraser-Fort George, TD Friends of the Environment, and the Province of British Columbia.

The COVID-19 pandemic has impacted our financial report this year. Less classroom availability meant less expensive forms of program delivery, resulting in cost savings on educator delivery, school bus rental, and educator travel. In total, Beyond Recycling cost \$88,920 to run in 2020-2021. Some funding has been deferred to 2021-2022 when program delivery demand stabilizes.

RDCK funding of \$21,500 was used to deliver 5 adapted Beyond Recycling programs in the Central Kootenay. These funds also supported the development of the new Regional Earth Day program (read more on page 8) that engaged 26 RDCK teachers in action-based activities.

FINANCIAL REPORT

RDCK Final Report			
Beyond Recycling 2020-2021			
Item	Note	Budget	Actual
Revenue			
Columbia Basin Trust	Overall program support	60,000	48,000
National Science and Engineering Research Council	Overall program support	33,596	0
Province of BC - BC Gaming	Overall program support	12,500	0
Columbia Shuswap Regional District	Revelstoke/Golden	12,620	12,620
Regional District of Central Kootenay	West/Central Kootenay	21,500	21,500
Regional District of Fraser Fort George	Valemount	6,800	6,800
Total Revenue		147,016	88,920
Expenses			
Administration and Overhead			
Operational Support	Accounting, IT, office rental, insurance	14,702	8,892
Staffing and Coordinators' Wages			
Program coordinators	Program manager (346 hours @ \$35.12/hr) Program coordinator (432 hours @ \$31.28/hr)	25,662	26,449
Program educators	11 Educators @ \$35/hr	75,425	38,231
Program development	@ \$35/hr	5,005	2,973
Capital Purchases, Equipment Rental and Project Supplies			
Prop kit creation	Paper, printing, prop kit maintenance	1,020	633
Promotion and Advertising Costs			
Promotion & Outreach	Website, posters, social media, press releases, materials design and editing, content creation, newsletter distribution, creative direction	14,702	8,892
Travel, Training & Other Costs			
Mileage to schools	0.54 km/h	4,500	2,758
Field trip busing	School bus rental	6,000	92
Total Expenses		147,016	88,920
Net Revenue less Expenses		0	0

PHOTOS



Beyond Recycling in Creston & Nelson - adapted for the outdoor classroom!

RDCK COLLABORATION

Wildsight has a unique partnership with the RDCK as a funder of the Beyond Recycling program. As such, we have been working with the RDCK to strengthen the communication of relevant programs and initiatives of the Regional District through Beyond Recycling lessons and resources. In 2019-20, we participated in “See the Heat”, a pilot project to support home energy efficiency improvements through the Regional Energy Efficiency Program (REEP). Additionally, we have specifically included RDCK content in all relevant lessons and student pages. As we look ahead to a new school year in 2021-22, we are hopeful that we can anticipate a ‘return to normal’ in terms of classroom delivery, and that this will allow for new opportunities to include specific messages and programs in collaboration with the RDCK.

RDCK CONTENT IN LESSONS & STUDENT PAGES

Wherever possible, we have built opportunities to incorporate particular messages and programs of the RDCK into various lessons.

Example - Our Changing Climate Lesson

The adaptations to the Our Changing Climate lesson is a great example of the work done. A series of Community Action Cards were developed to highlight RDCK programs. These cards will be utilized by BR Educators in the RDCK as part of the lesson.

In this lesson, students explore climate change by imagining they are a character from an epic story that will overcome obstacles by learning new skills, growing emotionally and developing a deeper understanding of their situation. We explore the differences between climate and weather, how we know our climate is changing, play a game to understand the greenhouse effect, and the impact of increasing levels of greenhouse gases. The lesson ends with an activity that highlights what actions are being taken to reduce CO2 production and aims to offer hope and a frame of reference for some of the emotional impacts from this lesson.

[Click here to view the RDCK Climate Action Cards](#)

The following is a list of program lessons and resources that were adapted to include connections to specific RDCK content:

- **Garbology:** Lesson: Educators talk about what we can recycle and compost in the lesson. RDCK educators have links to the new [RecycleBC program](#). During the compost section in the lesson they will share '[backyard composting](#)' as well as the plan to have [organics diversions](#) in some communities. Student page: [Recycle BC- What can I Recycle? Backyard Composting](#)
- **It's a Plastic World:** Students page: [Recycle BC- What can I Recycle?](#) Learn how you can recycle plastic in your community

- **Waste Field Trip:** Lesson: Educators and RDCK staff explore waste reduction (recycling, composting and all the R's), how different types of waste are sorted and treated at the landfill, and Product Stewardship. They might also visit a recycling depot depending on the community. Student page: [Recycle BC- What can I Recycle?](#) [Backyard Composting](#), [Product Stewardship](#) Learn where you can recycle things like batteries, electronics and paint
- **Closing the Loop:** Lesson: Teachers talk about product stewardship with regard to batteries, paint, tires, propane tanks in this lesson. They also talk about recycling aluminum cans and glass bottles. Student page: [Product Stewardship](#) Learn where you can recycle things like batteries, electronics and paint, '[What can I recycle?](#)'
- **Our Changing Climate:** Lesson: Community Action Plan Cards - made special cards for RDCK educators by adapting the cards. Programs mentioned in the cards are: [Regional Energy Efficiency Program](#), [Organics Diversion](#), [Accelerate Kootenays](#), [Water Smart Program](#), [FireSmart Program](#), [100% Renewable Kootenays](#). Student page: [Regional Energy Efficiency Program](#)- Here are some ways to reduce how much energy you use in your house, [Water Smart Program](#)- Save water and energy! [FireSmart Program](#)- Ways to adapt your home to the changing climate
- **Our Energy:** Student pages: [Regional Energy Efficiency Program](#)- Save energy in your home, [See the Heat](#)- Use thermal energy cameras to see the heat in your homes
- **Eco Footprint:** Student page: [Regional Energy Efficiency Program](#)- Reduce your energy footprint in your home, [Backyard Composting](#)- Reduce your waste footprint by composting, [Recycle](#)- What can I recycle in my community?, [Water Smart Program](#)- Get smart about water in your home, [Eat Local Food](#)- Support local farmers and reduce your ecofootprint
- **Transportation:** Link in the lesson to [Accelerate Kootenays](#)
- **Our Water:** [Water smart program](#) link in student pages
- **True Cost of Food/Good Food Field Trip/Real Food Potluck:** Link to [Central Kootenay Food](#) and BC farmers markets
- **EcoChallenges:** See the Heat - pilot program - to continue 2020-2021. Investigate getting water shower timers from RDCK for short shower challenge in 2020-2021