GREENER WAYS FOR US! URBITA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PROJECT ADVISORS: Anissa Delgado, Brandon Salgado

### **PROJECT SUMMARY**

This year our Earthsavers afterschool club focused on learning all about renewable and non-renewable forms of energy. We used the NEED Energy Info Book to gain the knowledge that we were looking for.

Once we learned that renewable forms of energy are so under used, yet so much better for the environment, we decided to take action! We wanted to do something for future Urbita students and we decided what better way than to get solar panels here at our school. We researched different types of solar panels and decided that since it is so hot here, we would like to have them over our play structures so that we can have shade. We measured the area of our play structures to determine cost and to find out if it would be the right amount of panels to bring us to net zero. We created a plan and used that plan to create a presentation that we will be presenting to the board of education in May. We are hoping that we will be successful and they will fund our project! We will also be presenting our ideas to our school and local community at the Earthday celebration that we are planning, organizing, and hosting at our school on Monday, April 22, 2019. Goal 1: To learn what renewable and nonrenewable energy is.





### Activities and tasks:

- We used NEED's icebreakers to play some games and to learn chants about the renewable/ non-renewable resources.
- We sorted the resources into what we thought was renewable and nonrenewable.
- Each week we used the NEED Energyinfo book to learn about a new renewable and non-renewable resource.
- When we went back to look at the way we sorted, we realized how wrong we were!

We wrote what we *thought* we knew about energy. Boy did we have so much to learn!!

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We learned chants and played games from the NEED icebreakers to help us remember the different forms of energy. We used the NEED info book to learn more about forms of energy.

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# **Goal 1: To learn what renewable** and non-renewable energy is.

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**Student leadership:** \*We used the NEED Energy infobook to learn about renewable and nonrenewable forms of energy. We broke into groups to learn about different forms of energy and took turns teaching the whole group what we had learned.



## **Evaluation:**

\*We evaluated what we learned based on what we thought we knew. We were surprised to find what we were wrong about. We re-sorted the renewable and non-renewable forms of energy and realized the mistakes we had made.

# Goal 2: To use what we learned to make big changes at Urbita

### **Activities and tasks:**

\*We researched renewable resources in the NEED Energy infobook.

\*We came up with a solution to apply what we had learned and that would help benefit future Urbita students.

\*We researched different types of solar panels to find which one we believed would be best for our school. We decided that since it is so hot where we live, solar panel playground shades would be best.

\*We determined area of the playground areas, analyzed cost effectiveness, and came up with what we believe to be the best way to get our school to save energy through the use of solar panels.

\*We created a board proposal that we will be presenting at the board of education on May 21<sup>st</sup>. We hope that based on our presentation, the board will agree to installing the playground solar panels that we are proposing.







We had to come up with a plan that could work at our school. It took a lot of time, research, and planning! We even had to measure proposed areas on campus to decide where we believed would be the best place for our solar panels.



Once we came up with a plan, we had to create a presentation that we would present to the Board of Education. We also had to practice what we are going to say!

# Goal 2: To use what we learned to make big changes at Urbita



- We researched different types of solar panels to come up with the best type for our school.
- We created a proposal for our plan to present to the Board of Education.
- We are presenting our proposal to the Board members on May 21<sup>st</sup>.

#### **Evaluation:**

\*We evaluated each others' presentation skills by giving each other feedback on how to improve/ what to do better.

\*We self-reflected on everything we have learned about solar panels/solar energy and cost effectiveness.

# Goal 3: To present what we have learned and our proposed plan to our school and local community

#### Activities and tasks:



\*We organized a school-wide Earthday celebration that will be held on April 22, 2019. Schedule of events include: -A school-wide recycle fair where students will create something new out of something old. We will award first and second place project winners at every grade level. -A school-wide assembly where we plan to teach the NEED chants that we learned this school year to all of the Urbita students, staff, and families. We will also be awarding the first and second place winners their award ribbons. Lastly, we will be unveiling our plan and proposal that we will be presenting to the Board of Education in May. We are hoping that students, parents, and teachers will show up to the board meeting where we propose our request to install solar panel playground shades at Urbita. Our hope is that we will fill the board room when we present our plan. We hope that the board members will be impressed with our presentation and support from our Urbita community and that they will approve our plan!

# Goal 3: To present what we have learned and our proposed plan to our school and local community



- We created a Board Proposal Presentation that we will be sharing with our local Urbita School community.
- We organized a Earthday celebration at our school.
- We will be teaching our Urbita students, families, and staff the NEED chants that we have learned this year.
- We will be awarding ribbons to students who participate in our Urbita Recycle Fair.

#### **Evaluation:**

\*We evaluated each other based on our presentation skills, knowledge of renewable and non-renewable resources, and in our ability to teach students, staff, and families the NEED chants that we learned this year.

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