Earthsavers are Changemakers!

Urbita Elementary School
Earthsavers
San Bernardino, Ca.
EARTHSavers ARE CHANGEmakers!
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It’s hard to believe that last year was the first year that our Afterschool Club was able to meet together, post-pandemic. We were so excited to start year two, pick up where we left off, and then to accomplish so much more! Since we have another new principal, we knew we had to fill him in on our School Wide Recycle Plan that we started last year. Much to our delight, he is totally on board and happy to support our initiative. We filmed a movie to show in the classrooms to teach students and teachers about recycling, and to explain our new school plan.

We have new members in our club this year, therefore, we knew we had to catch them up with all that we learned about renewable and non-renewable energy. We used the Primary Energy Infobook to share all that we had learned about energy and forms of energy. We used the information that we have learned to create projects that we will be displaying at our upcoming Earthday Recycle Fair. We plan to teach students, parents, and staff all about renewable energy and how important it is to use renewable forms of energy. Lastly, we want to continue teaching Urbita students, parents, and staff about energy, so we decided to clean up our school garden to make it a usable space for our Earthsavers to teach hands-on lessons. We got a sponsorship from the Inland Empire Conservation District, who has donated mulch and garden beds that should be installed by the end of the school year. We are so excited to start the next school year off with our new teaching/hands-on learning space. Earthsavers ARE changemakers!
Goal 1: To get our school recycle plan going.

Activities and tasks:
* We used NEED’s All About Trash to teach our new members why recycling is important.
* We wrote to our principal to inform him of our plan.
* We created a movie to show in classrooms. This will teach students and staff about the importance of recycling and explains our new recycling plan.

Energy Content and Resources:
* NEED’s All About Trash
OUR MOVIE TEACHES WHAT TYPES OF TRASH WILL GO IN EACH CAN.

AND HOW TO EMPTY THEM APPROPRIATELY EACH DAY
Goal 1: To get our school recycle plan going.

Student leadership:
*Our previous year’s members taught the new members all that we had learned about recycling and our plan for recycling at Urbita.
*We sent a letter to our new principal and he wrote us back, agreeing to support the plan.
*We broke into smaller groups and created skits that we recorded and turned into a movie that will be shown to all the staff and students at Urbita to teach them our new plan for recycling.

Evaluation:
*Our new members learned a lot quickly, and really helped to make a great movie.
*Our principal believes that our plan will make big changes at our school. We are still awaiting the large trash cans and the dollies that our principal ordered to make the plan work, but we believe that once the items are on campus, our school will be able to implement a successful recycling plan!
Goal 2: To learn about energy and to teach what we have learned to our school community.

Activities and tasks:
- We used NEEDS Primary Energy Infobook to learn about energy and forms of energy.
- We divided into teams and became an expert on each renewable form of energy: solar, wind, hydropower, geothermal, and biomass.

Energy Content and Resources:
- *NEED’s Primary Energy Infobook
We learned the difference between renewable and non-renewable energy.
We used NEED’s Primary Infobook to learn about renewable forms of energy.
We used the information that we learned to create projects that we will present at our school’s Earthday/ Recycle Fair.
Goal 2: To learn about energy and to teach what we have learned to our school community.

Student leadership:
- Students used NEEDs Primary energy infobook to learn about energy and forms of energy.
- Students created projects to teach our school community about the importance of renewable energy and will be presenting them at our Earthsavers’ hosted Recycle Fair.

Evaluation:
- We learned a lot about energy and learned a lot from each other about different forms of renewable energy.
- We plan to self-evaluate after our Recycle fair to determine how well we were able to teach students, parents, and staff about the importance of renewable energy. We will use the self-evaluation to plan what to do better at next year’s recycle fair.
Goal 3: To beautify our school garden and create a space for hands-on lessons.

Activities and tasks:
* We spent hours in the garden cleaning it out and getting it ready for a hands-on learning space.
* We worked with a member of the Inland Empire Resource Conservation District who got mulch and garden beds donated to us.

Energy Content and Resources:
* We plan to use NEED’s Saving Energy Infobook to teach about energy, growth, and to do demonstrations for forms of energy, such as wind and solar energy.
Goal 3: To beautify our school garden and create a space for hands-on lessons.

Student leadership:
The Earthsavers worked hard to clean up and beautify the garden. With our donation from the Inland Empire Resource Conservation District, and help from our maintenance and operations department, we were able to have the mulch put in the garden. We are awaiting our beds and are hopeful that we can end the year with at least one hands-on lesson for our school community.

Evaluation:
*We will be evaluating the effectiveness of our lesson(s) through a self-evaluation tool. We plan to use the feedback to work on making our lessons better, as we plan to utilize this space into the next school year and beyond!
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