

Qualitative Assessment Template

Name of Action: Green Science Fair

In a few short sentences, please describe the action and identify your partners.

Our annual Science Fair always has a few Green based projects. We decided to focus and reward students who research and present about Green topics. For this activity, students, teachers, administration, parents and community groups such as the scouts and the H.S.A. were involved. Students were to design science experiments, or presentations to share with the school community. They were encouraged to work with parents, siblings, peers and even community groups such as cub scouts and brownie troops. Students earned a “green prize” (a green ribbon) as a reward for presenting on a Green Topic like how to naturally purify water, how to create recycled paper, solar power, wind turbines, information on endangered species, etc.

Even if the action was performed by volunteers, or you got in-kind donations, please estimate your costs and the time commitment required to complete the action.

Our only costs were the green ribbons and the decorations. Students were encouraged to use recycled cardboard for their presentations, and reusable containers. The time on the part of the school staff, was the hours spent planning, communicating and tracking the participants. In all, this was about 2-3 hours per week for four weeks. Also, the time to set up the tables and put them away was about two hours total. The students and community groups worked individually on their projects and presentations. Time varied according to the complexity of the research or experiment. The actual event itself was held in two sessions over three hours.

Assess what worked and what could be done if this action is tried again in the community.

The Science Fair continued and enhanced the school’s focus on sustainability. The project are completed at home or with the students’ clubs such as Girl and Boy Scouts. The Scouts were eager to participate as it now earns the scouts merit badges in the area of sustainability (2013). This fair is a start to the learning of the large process of earning a badge.

The fact that the parents work alongside their children, they were receiving the learning awareness generated by the project.

What are the next steps for this action?

Three Bridges School continues to have a focus on Green learning. We anticipate continuing our annual Science Fair. We would like to involve older scouts and Raritan Valley Community College and our township offices to have a station where the families can learn about sustainability in Readington and where they can learn and experience more in our area.