

**A CREATIVE EDUCATION PROGRAM**  
for teachers, administrators, parents and students by



greenewit

THE EDUCATION FOUNDATION  
of BALTIMORE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS



HOTSPOTS

EXTENDED CARE PROGRAM

**what makes**

## **OUR SCHOOLS PROGRAM SPECIAL?**

**OWNERSHIP | UNDERSTANDING | RESPONSIBILITY**



**the LESSON PLANS**

**the PRESENTATION**

**stem NIGHT**

**professional  
DEVELOPMENT**

greeNEWit is partnering with Hot Spots to provide a range of dynamic and educational programming on the importance of STEM as it relates to environmental literacy. Energy experts deliver in-school assemblies, classroom curriculum, and after school STEM nights to educate all members of the school community how we can work together towards cleaner, healthier, and more sustainable communities. We incorporate a variety of engaging teaching and presentation methods to ensure that students are not only learning the principles of STEM & the environment, they are inspired to take further action. Additionally, as MDGS leaders, our directors know what is required to fulfill the requirements of your Green Schools certifications or recertifications as they'll work with you along the way to ensure your school's readiness.

## the PRESENTATION

Energy experts deliver fun and engaging assemblies that educate students how each of our interactions with the environment greatly affects the way we live, and how STEM plays an essential role in the path toward sustainability. We incorporate visual display, skits, demonstrations, live music, and acrobatics to show students the short and long term benefits of environmental sustainability, and how to identify opportunities for reducing consumption and saving resources. Presentations are 45 minutes long and typically given to primary and intermediate grade levels separately.

Topics include:

- 🌱 STEM
- 🌱 Energy Efficiency
- 🌱 Renewable Energy & Fossil Fuels
- 🌱 Water Conservation
- 🌱 Environmental Sustainability



**All of our programming meets MAEOE's requirements for Green Schools Certification.**

## the LESSON PLANS

In addition to the presentation, we have developed a series of 30 minute lesson plans to further explore the topics of STEM with regards to energy, food, and the environment. These lessons are administered by homeroom teachers who will receive the necessary information, training, and supplies in advance. There are lessons on solar energy and wind energy for primary and secondary grades, where students learn to think like scientists and engineers faced with solving our current energy challenges.

OUR Lessons:

- 🌱 Utilize hands on learning
- 🌱 Promote critical thinking skills regarding science, technology, and engineering
- 🌱 Investigate environmental issues surrounding renewable energy and fossil fuels
- 🌱 Are in the 5 E format for ease of understanding



## STEM NIGHT EXPERIENCE

greenNEWit created our own STEM night as a way to teach parents and students how they can work together to reduce their home and community's carbon footprint. STEM night features a kick off presentation where we demonstrate the tools and technology professionals use to improve the energy and water efficiency of homes and buildings, while describing how kids can become energy detectives of their own to better identify energy and water-saving opportunities. Then, students and parents split into separate sessions, and students create energy detective badges of their own and learn more about what goes into being an effective energy detective. Meanwhile, parents attend their own educational session to learn about how their home works as an ecosystem of its own, and the most cost-effective strategies they can take to reduce their energy and water use. Lastly, students engineer batteries from coins and lemon juice as they learn about some of the challenges and technologies our professional energy engineers are currently facing.

**We provide all the supplies, training, and support needed to ensure a seamless integration with your school.**

STEM Night:

- ✔ Is educational and fun for the entire family
- ✔ Promotes responsibility and sustainable behavior
- ✔ Shows how STEM can help families save energy

## professional DEVELOPMENT

As a part of this partnership, we developed an on-site professional development presentation to educate teachers on the environmental sustainability challenges facing our society. We also review with them the classroom lesson plans and background information needed to best convey these environmental literacy concepts to their students.

Our professional development session includes:

- ✔ An informative overview of homes as an eco-system
- ✔ Education on the most cost effective ways to save energy and water
- ✔ An overview of the partnership with greenNEWit and the Green Schools application process



## BENEFITS of the program

We know that a sustainable society has a solid education at its core. By participating in the OUR Schools Program, students gain the necessary tools to help impact their life, energy and planet for a better future. It is then up to the students to use what they learned to maintain ownership, understanding and responsibility of their life's energy use and our community's carbon footprint. OUR Schools program positively impacts the following groups.



### **schools benefit by...**

- Have a sustainable community partner in greenNEWit and Hot Spots
- Gaining direct access to two Maryland Green School Leaders who will work with you during your green schools certification or re-certification process

### **teachers benefit by...**

- Developing an increased understanding of energy efficiency and resource consumption
- Receiving four-part lesson plans for STEM curriculum
- Getting access to professional development training done onsite during work hours

### **students benefit by...**

- Experiencing a day long celebration about STEM and environmental education
- Gaining an increased understanding of energy technologies and how STEM is used everyday
- Participating in a dynamic and engaging presentation
- Receiving hands-on learning about the environment and how they play a role in it
- Being inspired to make a change and become more green

### **parents benefit by...**

- Developing an increased understanding of energy-efficiency measures in their own home
- Receiving tools and knowledge to become an energy role model to their children



## Join **OUR SCHOOLS PROGRAM**

Join one of the fastest-growing energy education programs in Maryland. greeNEWit plans to expand the OUR Schools Program nationally with a commitment to continued education. Come join OUR Schools!



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