

2022-2023

EcoSchools Canada National Impact Report



2022-23 marks a remarkable academic year for EcoSchools from coast to coast to coast. This year, **1,641 schools** from across Canada registered in the EcoSchools program. We were thrilled to welcome **173 new schools** to the EcoSchools community from **10 provinces and territories**.

750,000+

students reached

18,000+

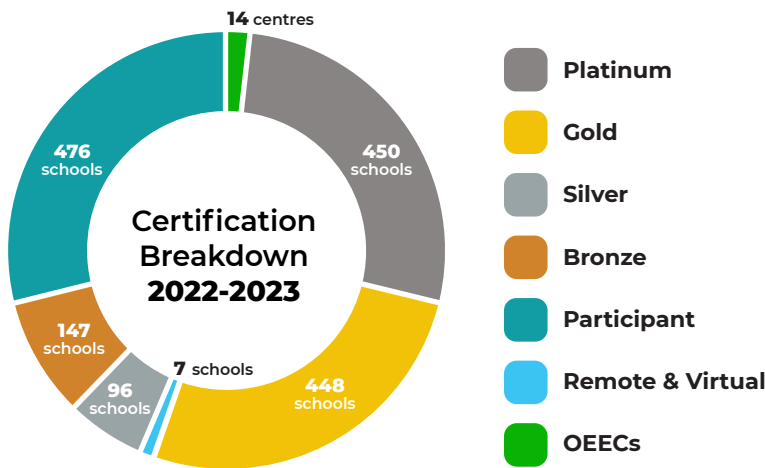
actions completed
—that's 3,000 more than last year!

730,000+

hours of outdoor learning
this school year! *That's equivalent to over 80 years!*

137

registered school boards / districts / divisions



to the **553** returning EcoSchools that have achieved **10+ years** of certification.

Data collected from all schools participating in the EcoSchools program 2022-23 as of May 26, 2023. To learn more about how EcoSchools gathers and interprets school data, [see here](#).

Top Actions 2022-2023

The EcoSchools action library offers a comprehensive selection of [50+ actions](#) to choose from, spanning across 12 themes. These themes range from waste and energy to health and well-being, biodiversity and nature. Here were the top 3 most popular actions taking place in EcoSchools across the country.

1ST
most popular



Community Clean-Up
Theme: Waste

2ND
most popular



GOOS Paper
Theme: Waste

3RD
most popular



Earth Day
Theme: Global Citizenship



Action: Community Clean-up

“This is one of the most beloved school-wide events at Hayden. It is an annual event and when the students were surveyed they said it was their favourite event of the year. The students really take pride in cleaning up their school grounds and surrounding community. They are always so surprised to see how much waste we collect.”

Dr. Frank J. Hayden SS, Halton District School Board

NEW! For 2022-2023

We added two new actions to the ECA this year: Zero-Emission Vehicles and Low-Carbon Driving, and Climate Hero Escape Room. Here are some of the highlights from these new actions for 2022-23:

 **Zero-Emission Vehicles and Low-Carbon Driving**

100% of participating schools increased their awareness of how students and adults can take positive action related to fuel-efficiency, eco-driving, clean fuels, and fuel diversification.

 **Climate Hero Escape Room**

3,767 students increased their awareness of the global climate crisis, in a fun and immersive [online escape room game](#) experience.

○ Connecting to the SDGs

With each action taken as part of the EcoSchools program, schools are making a meaningful contribution to our global effort to achieve the [United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals](#).



SDG 6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION

679 schools participated in actions related to water conservation.

SDG 7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY

11,000+ classrooms had their energy efficiency optimized.

SDG 11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES

156,000+ waste-free lunches were packed and brought to schools this year.

SDG 12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION

392,900+ kg of waste was diverted from the landfill. *That's equivalent to the weight of 1,450+ grizzly bears.*

SDG 13 CLIMATE ACTION

1,600+ tons of CO₂e was sequestered from school ground greening activities.

For more information on how the EcoSchools program connects to the UN Sustainable Development goals, check out our SDG progress report for 2022 [here](#).

○ Feature: Create Your Own Action

Every year, we are inspired by the creative and innovative initiatives that schools across the country undertake as part of the Create Your Own action card. These initiatives demonstrate the passion and commitment of students, teachers, and administrators to improving the sustainability of their school community and beyond! Here are some of the exciting ideas that schools have implemented this year:



Birchmount (ASD-E)

"Students grew bioleather from scoby and then had a First Nations staff guide them through using it to create dream catchers."

Frank Panabaker Elementary School (HWDSB)

"Students created an EcoMarket with donated items. Students were given 50 fake dollars to purchase holiday gifts for their family that were then wrapped in eco-friendly gift wrap."

To register your school, visit

app.ecoschools.ca

To learn more about what we can offer you, visit

ecoschools.ca

To get in touch with a question, email us at

info@ecoschools.ca