

School Planning Document 2020 - 2021

Year of Plan	✓	✓	✓	✓
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School Name: Departure Bay Eco-School
Principal: Annette Noble
Vice-Principal: Stacy Aitken
Date: 2020 - 2021



School Community Context

Departure Bay received academy school status as an Eco-School in September 2015. In the first phase (2013) a plan, including staff training was established. School gardens and an Eco-Club were created as well as many working partnerships with community groups. In phase II, many projects and activities were underway. The population of the school was approximately 160 students in 2013.

By September 2020, the school population has grown to 346 students in 16 divisions. Each year it is important to review and understand the Vision and Goals of the Eco-School so that we may build upon the learning opportunities for the students that reflect these goals.

Given this current year, with COVID-19, and the emphasis on taking students outside more often, we will continue with a variation of the school goal into a fourth year. We will continue to explore how we can meet curricular objectives in literacy and numeracy, science and social studies in place / nature-based learning opportunities. For our first Professional Development Day in October, we, as a staff, adventured to two of our local parks. We participated in and shared several teaching ideas in Wardropper Park and then went on a hike through Linley Valley. We explored many trails that were new to most of the staff.

What's our goal?

To understand the Goals and Vision of Departure Bay Eco-School.

To expand the scope and sequence of learning activities under the themes of:

Nature Appreciation – Place Based Learning

Waste Management

Energy Conservation

What's our inquiry question?

How can we embed literacy and numeracy, science and social studies into place / nature-based learning as we continue to meet the goals of an Eco-School?

How do we want to get there? What steps should we take? How will we know that we have had an impact?

Strategies:

Revisit goals. What does it mean to be an Eco-School? (Staff and students)
What is an Eco-Citizen?

Writing (creative, descriptive or narrative) after experiencing an outdoor pre-writing activity.

Garden Classes – facilitated by a gardener.
Members of Advisory Committee for LIT SOIL Kits

Continue to participate in a variety of projects:

- * Energy Cup Challenge
- * Waste Challenge
- * Earth Day Activity
- * School Wide Beach Clean
- * Park Enhancements (Wardropper, Woodstream, Linley Valley)

Continuous sharing of outdoor learning ideas.
Sharing of placed / nature based learning.

Reflect on core competencies based on school goals.