
Alternative Energy Host Instructions

Thanks so much for hosting the Alternative Energy Station for 6th graders today!

Following the schedule, you will have 8 groups of students for about 20 minutes each at your station – 4 in the morning, and 4 in the afternoon. Students will be coming to you from the Percolation Perambulation along the river, and will leave you to go to Water Chemistry, which is a long hike. That is why you will only have them for 20 minutes, and than send them on their way.

Welcome your group briefly by gathering them at a picnic table to say how many wonderful choices there are for our future energy. They will probably all agree with you that some changes away from oil and coal might be smart, especially since there are good options in renewable energy. You may also reflect on how little energy (and water) we used to use, and somehow got along fine...giving a nod to Mrs. Weyer's Washday trunk.

Gently assign pairs of groups of students to visit one area of implements for about two minutes, just to figure out how it works and set it up, and then call the group together again, to visit each demonstration (given by the students themselves). The rest of the time is for them to explore all the gear they would like, and try it out. You will just circulate and enjoy fixing and tweaking the equipment with them. (Start with Mrs. Weyer's, and help to model that demonstration by really washing clothes and hanging them up, or pouring water into the pitcher and bowl for a "bath".) (It's good to need power from the bike to run things, so plug in more and call for more power peddlers. Also, a contest between the sun and the manual pump is always good. Use the 5 gallon buckets to stage a contest with much hoopla.)

Praise them for their willingness to try out the future, and smile! (Could be fun after all!)

Thanks!