

**2009-2010**  
**WHRO Classroom Preview**

**Series Title: Eco=Kids Middle**

**Curriculum Area: Science**

**Grades: 6-8**

**# of Programs/Length: 3/15 - 18 minute programs**

It's going to take everyone's contributions to make our planet better. Eco=Kids is designed to help students take steps in the right direction toward making the Earth a better, an environmentally friendlier place to live. Each divided into three parts, these series report on the state of our planet today as seen through the eyes of their peers. Join our hosts as they demonstrate ways to help the Earth become healthy again. With the use of log books that students can make, we will learn how to conserve energy, preserve water, and learn about renewable resources while monitoring use of our natural resources. Examples of conservation from energy saving light bulbs to using alternate forms of transportation. Watch how you, your family and school can become more eco-friendly in this three part series!

**1.) The Earth Needs Your Help**

The first part of the Eco Kids series discusses some the biggest problems facing the environment today and how it is being abused. We'll learn the role of the greenhouse effect, carbon emissions, air pollution and how the burning of the rainforest affects global warming. The "carbon footprint" is explained as well as an experiment with acid rain. We also learn about the amount of water and unnecessary packaging material people use everyday. This episode sparks students' knowledge of what they can do to "refuse, reuse and recycle" contributing to a healthier Earth.

**2.) How Eco Are You?**

The second part of this three part series teaches students the "Inconvenient truth" about our environment. The episode challenges students to conduct an "Eco-Investigation" of their homes, schools and communities to determine which of our daily routines waste resources or are harmful to the environment. We examine our use of grocery bags, the packaging of products, what we eat and drink, water consumption, the safety of cleaning products and energy usage in our homes. We also take a closer look at paper and other material usage in schools, as well transportation in our communities. Once students understand how individuals contribute to the problem, they can become part of the solution to eco-friendliness.

**3.) The Things You Can Do (PREVIEW PROGRAM)**

The program urges students to become "power police;" put a stop to the wasteful things people do everyday and promote the use of Green Power. We cover what can be done in the home like buying energy efficient appliances, recycling cans, growing a garden, taking shorter showers and eating organic. It explores the things we can change in schools like reusing paper and batteries. It also suggests changes that can be made in the community like minimizing driving, boycotting bad products and writing petitions for change. Students are encouraged to spread the word about becoming eco-friendly and help our Earth recover.