



How Students Can Play a Role in the *Tools for Schools* Program to Create a Healthy School Environment



A healthy school indoor environment should be everyone's responsibility, including students. *Tools for Schools* (TfS) can offer students a chance to be involved as team members and as STEM learning opportunities. Students can also bring home ideas on how to make their homes healthy. Here are some suggestions.

High School

- As a TfS team member
- Liaison to student government
- Write articles for the school newspaper/newsletter
- Present program to school community – assembly, PTA
- Involvement in environmental club, environmental science classes
- Develop and maintain TfS webpage for school/district
- Develop a database to compile TfS data and track corrective actions through clubs such as math or computer
- Participate in presentation to the Board of Education
- Collect data at home using the Healthy Homes checklist; compile results, make list of top problems
- Develop science experiments related to IEQ; science fair exhibit
- Go on school walkthrough; make suggestions for improvements students can make.
- Calculate energy savings from replacing incandescent bulbs with CFLs



Students will learn:

Science

- Ecology
 - ✓ indoor environment,
 - ✓ pollution
- Microbiology
 - ✓ mold

Technology

- ✓ Building science

Engineering

- ✓ ventilation systems,
- ✓ building structure

Math and Computer

- ✓ developing spreadsheets,
- ✓ charting temperature, CO2 and humidity levels

Other

- ✓ public speaking,
- ✓ preparing presentation materials and reports.

Resources:

Environmental Health Curricula

CT School Indoor Environment Resource Team

STEM Education Coalition

Middle School

- As a TfS team member
- Compile data and map problems identified through math and computer groups
- Educate classmates in science or health classes about improving the indoor environment
- Write letters to the school board about IEQ in the school
- Do Healthy Homes checklist at home; make a list of what could be changed to improve IEQ in the home
- Earth Day Fair
- In-school field trip (walkthrough)
- Form an energy patrol to monitor energy saving activities



Elementary School

- Chart room temperatures
- Make posters to educate classmates about IEQ and how they can help improve the environment.
- Write letters to parents about the importance of good indoor environment in the school and home
- Make signs to remind people to turn off the lights when leaving the room



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