



 **Sustainable**  
 **Future**  
 **Schools**  
**Brochure**

A project of



**LSF**

Learning for a  
Sustainable Future



## What is a LSF Sustainable Future School (SFS)?

A Sustainable Future School (SFS) takes a whole-school approach to help students, teachers, principals, staff, parents and community members integrate the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) into: school culture; teaching, learning and curriculum; facilities and operations; and community partnerships.

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are a set of 17 objectives that weave together economic, social, and environmental dimensions for a safer, healthier, and more prosperous world by 2030. They are organized into the 5 Ps that shape the SDGs: Planet, People, Prosperity, Peace, and Partnerships.

The program will be a resource for schools to design their own path for advancing the SDGs. It is not set out as a prescribed journey, but rather as a map and set of planning tools using the SDGs as a lens.



# Why become a Sustainable Future School?



*Our children need the knowledge, skills and values to thrive in our rapidly changing world and become resilient, problem-solving global citizens.*

**Sustainable Future Schools use the Sustainable Development Goals as a lens through which to...**

- **introduce students to local and global sustainability issues** – these could include anything from single-use plastics, to green jobs, to food insecurity, and more!
- **provide an authentic context for acquiring the knowledge and skills to tackle complex issues** – learning is more powerful when it's applied. Data management comes to life when you learn to measure and graph the amount of compost your classmates diverted from the landfill!
- **inspire students to act on their learning and make a difference in their own community** – acting on learning moves beyond awareness of an issue to identifying solutions and working towards change.
- **support transformative teaching strategies** – including integrated learning, inquiry, real-world connections, acting on learning, alternative perspectives, and learning locally.
- **enhance energy, waste, and water efficiency of facilities and operations** – support collaboration between classes (students & teachers) administrators, and custodial staff, to embed the implementation and monitoring of resource-saving measures within curriculum learning.



## As a Sustainable Future School you will receive:

- LSF's Sustainable Future Schools program framework and process guide.
- Professional development session for teachers, plus ongoing PD support provided by experienced facilitators include a monthly mentoring café.
- Strategies and tools to help integrate SDGs into classrooms.
- Resources including videos, lesson plans, children's literature, outdoor activities, games, and apps ([R4R.ca](http://R4R.ca)).
- Invitation for 1-2 classes to participate in a Youth Leadership Forum that ENGAGES students in local sustainability issues, EQUIPS them with skills needed to make a change, and EMPOWERS them to take action.
- Examples of cross-grade, collaborative projects that give students opportunities to connect to and act on issues bigger than themselves and to consider the role they want to take as they are learning to become "solutionaries" and global citizens ([OurCanadaProject.ca](http://OurCanadaProject.ca)).
- \$500 in funding to support student-led sustainability Action Projects that bridge classroom learning with community involvement and real-world connections. Students identify and research an issue, explore solutions, develop skills, form partnerships, take action, and measure their impacts.
- Opportunities for students to present their projects at LSF events.

# Here's what our SFS Pilot School is doing and saying...



“The idea is to reflect on learning experiences through the SDGs. Ask questions: How does this relate to our own future? To our local community? To global challenges?”



“Nature and the community became vehicles for teaching curriculum in a holistic, integrated, project-based, and inquiry-based manner. Students apply their learning to making a difference in the real world and connecting with their community.”

“The SDGs are core values of the school and a foundation to its culture. Students apply their lessons to making a difference, globally and locally. That underscores the importance of integrating the Sustainable Development Goals into our thinking and action. The Sustainable Development Goals also help build awareness and understanding for other important social issues that are school priorities, such as the Black Lives Matter movement and Indigenous knowledge. The goal is that students will leave the school knowing they can act on what they have learned.” Lynn Bristoll, Principal Belfountain Public School



“To make the Goals understood you have to make them real for children. Big ideas need to be connected to their day-to-day experiences. Children can grasp a science idea like adaptation when they see the animals outside managing to survive in winter. They really get it!”



# SFS Schools in Action

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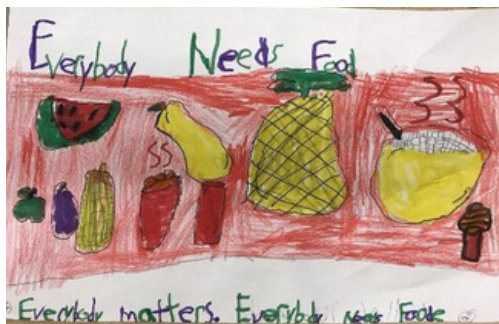
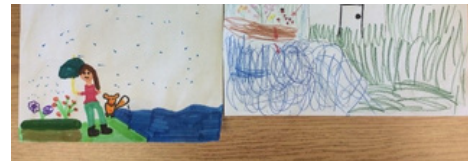
## KINDERGARTEN

Learned about clothing, where it comes from, and how it affects the environment. They created a video to help raise awareness. Community partner: Fashion Takes Action

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## GRADE 1/2

Put a rain garden in at the school. They learned about rain garden benefits and are making decisions about plant species and design. Community partners: Credit Valley Conservation Authority and Peel School Board



## GRADE 3

Posters and a kindergarten video helped promote a food waste challenge in their community. Students started planting in the Spring. Community partner: EcoCaledon's "Just Eat It" Challenge

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## Grades 4/5 and 6

Created a community festival. They created budgets, wrote grants and educated their community about an invasive species. Community partner: Credit Valley Conservation Authority



## Grade 5 Energy saving homes



**Grades 3/4**  
Erosion on school ground



**Grades 1/2/3**  
Wildlife adaptation activity

**Grade 3**  
Soil study with a  
community partner



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