

OCTOBER GREEN TEAM TEACHER RESOURCE REFERENCE

The Health of our Earth is Everyone's Responsibility!

Green Team targets car emissions!

For the health of our kids, turn your ignition off. If drivers are stopped or parked for more than 10 seconds, you should turn your car's ignition off.

Idling for more than 10 seconds burns gas almost twice as fast as driving and produces almost double the amount of toxic emissions per second than a vehicle moving at average speed. These emissions are contributing to the surge of lung-related diseases in our children.

Facts:

1. Driving a car is the single most polluting thing we do.
2. Cars emit pollutants that can cause cancer, coughing, eye irritation and lung damage.
3. Pollutants also contribute to acid rain, poor water quality and global warming.
4. Idling and stop-n-go traffic costs motorists 753 million gallons of gas each year.

Suggested Discussion Ideas

How can we reduce emissions?

1. Bike or walk to work, school, errands
2. Carpool
3. Avoid drive through windows and rush hour whenever possible.
4. Take public transportation. A 40-foot bus takes 58 cars off the road
5. Buy a fuel efficient car
6. Combine trips/avoid single-purpose trips

Websites: www.nsc.org;

www.greendrivingusa.com; www.epa.gov