

Waste Wise Education Factsheet # 15

'Swachhta Ki Pathshala' & 'Green Gurukul'



LOCATION: DEHRADUN & DHARAMSHALA, INDIA | SPAN: 6 MONTHS | TARGET AUDIENCE: : SCHOOL STAKEHOLDERS, AND GOVERNMENT AGENCIES

OBJECTIVE:

To sensitise students about waste management and their environment through hands-on and thought-provoking activities.

INITIATIVE SUMMARY (WHAT & HOW):

'Green Gurukul' in Dehradun is a 6-month programme that follows a Training of Teachers (ToT) model to train educators on how to conduct interactive sessions and raise awareness amongst students to bring about behavioural change. Also, 'Swachhta Ki Pathshala' in Dharamshala directly engages teachers and students through interactive activities and learning sessions. These programs contain; 1) principal meetings 2) teachers training 3) pre-impact assessment 4) awareness raising sessions and activities 4) waste management setup 5) post impact assessment 6) testimonial 7) felicitation of individual teachers to maintain a fine balance between blending easily with the existing school curriculum whilst being sustainable and impactful.



Impact: Reached out 34,439 children in 108 schools. Led to increased awareness on the 3Rs of waste management, 'Reduce-Reuse-Recycle'. Students have learnt how to be active participants in effective, sustainable, and affordable waste management systems.



Resources: School staff, External coordinators, Cost for implementing green activities, IEC materials, Toolkits



Application: Scalable, Replicable



5Rs/Other Keywords: Reuse, Reduce, Recycle

Innovative Features

- Designed interactive toolkit in collaboration with 'WasteLess' as guiding document for teachers.
- Innovative drives and activities like "Kaun Banega Recycling King", "Plastic Gullak", "Game of Throws", "Art For Awareness" were designed to reinforce the idea of reverse logistics for recyclable waste.
- ToT model programme for implementation requires minimum human resources.
- Availability of multilingual toolkit helps in reaching out to large masses.
- Programme structure is flexible urging innovation.
- Focuses on establishing effective SWM systems in school premises.

Educational Features

- Participatory activities for school students, teachers, principals, and community members.
- Awareness provided to students on effective systems for waste management.
- Programme activities include clean-up drives, plastic bottle and recycling drive, wall murals, 'Game of Throws', e-waste drive, upcycling sessions, 'Kaun Banega Recycling King' etc.
- Pragmatic and experience-based learning approach to enable effective problem-solving among students.



Useful link

Webpage: <https://wastewarriors.org/>

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