



Blue School Criteria

Your Blueprint for Ocean Action must meet one or more of the criteria listed below. Feel free to come up with your own ideas or draw from suggestions offered in past or present Ocean Education kits.

1. Raise awareness about ocean conservation issues in your school and/or your community at any time of the year by organizing an ocean-related event, such as a festival, exhibit, assembly, workshop, film showing, and so on.
2. Participate in *Ocean Links – a National Blue School Project* that gives students a voice in ocean conservation.
3. Investigate all the ways in which you and your school are interconnected with the ocean no matter where you live.
4. Link up with a school anywhere in Canada, or the world, and collaborate on an ocean awareness activity or action project.
5. Collaborate with people or organizations in your community to ensure the success of your ocean project.
6. Do a habitat project to benefit any aquatic wildlife species or improve shorelines or coasts.
7. Conserve Canada's aquatic heritage, protecting freshwater or marine ecosystems for their ecological, historical, economic, cultural and social value.
8. Take conservation action on behalf of Canada's three oceans – the Arctic, Atlantic and Pacific.
9. Boost biodiversity by conserving aquatic habitats with a rich variety of life or by discouraging human actions that could result in species loss.
10. Prevent ocean pollution by cutting marine debris off at its source in your local community and by turning off the tap on land-based contaminants.



Blue SCHOOL Program

Schools across this watery land are becoming blue. The Blue School program was launched in 1998 – the International Year of the Ocean – to encourage youth to raise awareness about ocean health and to take action to make the Earth a bluer planet.

Becoming blue, or ocean friendly, is a reachable goal for every school in Canada. It means achieving important goals, such as curbing climate change, preventing marine pollution, conserving aquatic habitat, and celebrating oceans.

Any class, school, or youth group can enrol in the program. You too can take part by developing and carrying out a "Blueprint for Ocean Action." You will receive a commemorative plaque and a beautifully crafted medallion for each year you keep us informed of your progress. Not only will you be setting a positive example for your community, you will also be earning recognition for your school. Your local efforts will be part of a growing movement in Canada that will make healthy oceans a reality.

To qualify as blue, your school must meet key criteria and register its Blueprint for Ocean Action with WILD Education. Funding is also available to groups that undertake habitat-related projects to conserve ocean health and aquatic ecosystems.





Blue SCHOOL™ program registration form

*Note: To register as a Blue School, complete Part 1.
To apply for funding, also complete Part 2.*

Part 1: Blue School Registration

1. Name of school (please print):

Number and street:

City: _____

Province/Territory: _____

Postal code: _____

Telephone: _____

Fax: _____

E-mail: _____

2. Full name of teacher(s) supervising project(s):

3. Grade level(s): _____

Total number of students: _____

Identify organizations/agencies
that will be involved in the project:

4. Date project will begin: _____

Anticipated project completion date: _____

5. **“Blueprint for Ocean Action” summary:**

a. Please check off the “Blue School” criteria that your students will meet through the project.

- Raise awareness about ocean conservation issues in your school and/or your community at any time of the year by organizing an ocean-related event, such as a festival, exhibit, assembly, workshop, film showing, and so on.
- Participate in Ocean Links – a National Blue School Project that gives students a voice in ocean conservation.
- Investigate all the ways in which you and your school are interconnected with the ocean no matter where you live.
- Link up with a school anywhere in Canada, or the world, and collaborate on an ocean awareness activity or action project.
- Collaborate with people or organizations in your community to ensure the success of your ocean project.
- Do a habitat project to benefit any aquatic wildlife species or improve shorelines or coasts.
- Conserve Canada’s aquatic heritage, protecting fresh-water or marine ecosystems for their ecological, historical, economic, cultural and social value.
- Take conservation action on behalf of Canada’s three oceans – the Arctic, Atlantic and Pacific,
- Boost biodiversity by conserving aquatic habitats with a rich variety of life or by discouraging human actions that could result in species loss.
- Prevent ocean pollution by cutting marine debris off at its source in your local community and turning off the tap on land-based contaminants.

b. Title of action plan: _____

c. Briefly describe the goal of your plan and what ecological concepts will be covered:

d. Briefly describe how your plan will help to promote ocean health and improve its quality:

e. Describe how students will be involved in the plan:

f. Describe what learning outcomes will be achieved by doing this project:

6. Species of wildlife primarily affected by your project (if applicable):

- Amphibians Birds Fish
- Insects Mammals Native plants
- Reptiles Other (please specify):

7. Check off the best description(s) of your project:

- a) Location: School Community
- Wetland Salt water
- Freshwater
- Other (please specify):

- b) Setting: Urban Rural
- Salt water coastal
- Freshwater coastal
- Other (please specify):

8. Check off the applicable response(s) and indicate total number(s) where known and if applicable:

- a) Plantings: Trees Shrubs
- Other (please specify):

- b) Structures: Nest boxes Feeders
- Other (please specify):

- c) Signs/plaques: Signs Award plaques

9. Area/dimensions of project, in metres or kilometres (if applicable):

Part 2: Funding Assistance Application

10. Complete this section and section 11 if you are applying for funds for the purchase of non-capital equipment and supplies for Blue School habitat projects; for example, plants, trees, seeds, and lumber. Transportation costs, clothing, and tools are not covered. To be eligible, projects must directly relate to habitat improvement, improve conditions for ocean health, and demonstrate student initiative in all phases. Funding is limited to an annual maximum of \$200 per class and \$500 per school. For complete criteria, please refer to the Blue School program on the *WILD Education* Web site (www.wilddeducation.org).

On a separate sheet, please provide further information about your habitat project, in addition to your summary in Part 1. Please use the following as a guide to provide these details:

- a. How will you organize your project at your school to ensure that it will succeed?
- b. How will you maintain the project in the longer term?
- c. To what extent will you be using community resources (volunteers, etc.)?
- d. To what extent do you plan to attract media coverage?

List of supplies/rented equipment, etc.

Cost

Total amount requested: _____

11. If your class (school) is receiving funds from other sources, please indicate name(s) and amount(s):

Organization(s): _____

Amount(s): \$ _____

We acknowledge that if our request for funds is approved, we will provide the Canadian Wildlife Federation with photos, slides, or a written description of our completed project or phases of our project as they are completed. We will ensure that the project is properly supervised, with student safety foremost in mind. All funds received will be applied to the project described above. Attached is a signed letter on school letterhead from the teacher(s) supervising the project, which also indicates the approval of our principal.

Signed: _____ (Print name): _____

Position: _____ Date: _____

Please provide further information:

1. Have you received an Ocean Education kit before?

Yes No

2. How was this information provided to you?

By the principal By the librarian

In the mail Other (please specify): _____

3. Are you planning to tie this project with other programs, such as Project WILD?

Yes No

If yes, which programs? _____

4. What is the name and address of the community/daily newspaper in your area?

5. Comments: _____

All classes and/or schools that register as Blue Schools and submit a Blueprint for Ocean Action will receive a medallion for each year in which they register and a commemorative plaque on which to mount their medallions.

Send this form to: **The Blue School Program**
350 Michael Cowpland Drive
Kanata, Ontario K2M 2W1
Tel.: 1-800-563-9453
(613) 599-9594 (Ottawa area)
Fax: (613) 599-4428

