

Activity 16

Calculate Your Eco-footprint!

Goals:

- Calculate the impact participants have on the earth.
- Elicit a sense of individual responsibility to living sustainably

Outcomes:

- A heightened awareness of one's individual impact on the earth and its resources.
- An understanding of the importance of local action.

Background: By calculating your ecological footprint, you are provided with information allowing you to visualize where you (or your team) is having the most impact on the earth and where your efforts are needed to reduce your impact to sustain or enhance life for future generations.

Suggested Time: 15 minutes x Track your ecological footprint each month over the academic year

Place: Anywhere on or off campus.

People: Team leader
Team members

Materials:

- <http://www.earthday.net/footprint/>

Notes:

STEP 1

- Collaborate with team members to determine when you would like to take the quiz
- Determine how frequently you would like to meet to go over results: monthly, bi-monthly, at the end of the semester, annually, etc.

STEP 2

- Take the quiz from <http://www.earthday.net/footprint/>

Or Calculate your Eco-Footprint using a quiz of your choice

STEP 3

- Keep track of your results and note where you have the largest impact

Create a record sheet and display it in a common place.

Participants can post their results and set goals to reduce their footprint in a given period of time

Follow Up:

- Meet with your team at the end of the semester to discuss results
- Discuss your progress, where you have made significant change, where change has been difficult, if becoming more aware of your impact has made you more environmentally conscious, etc.
- Provide incentives for individuals greatly reducing their impact