



## GET YOUR SCHOOL INVOLVED IN MOVING PLANET!

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### MOVING PLANET TEACHER & STUDENT RESOURCE

Moving Planet is an ideal opportunity for action-based learning about climate change and the world for students and schools. Mark this day in your school diary: Thursday September 22nd.

### WHAT IS MOVING PLANET?

Moving Planet is the campaign being run by 350.org and a host of other international organisations to help move the world beyond fossil fuels and toward the solutions to the climate crisis.

The goal is to get moving beyond fossil fuels—both symbolically by pouring into the streets in the thousands on foot, bicycle and other means of sustainable movement, and politically by bringing powerful demands to our leaders that day to move beyond fossil fuels to a 350ppm world. Mobilizing for individual and community solutions will continue to be important—but one of the main goals for Moving Planet is to demand government action, especially in places where governments are doing as much as possible to stall on climate change, despite the overwhelming urgency of the science.

In 2009 and 2010, hundreds of schools around the world joined the [350.org](http://350.org) global day of action in getting to work on the solutions to climate change - from installing solar panels to replacing asphalt with food gardens. For example, Midland School in Los Olivos, California, USA has converted their school to 20% energy use from solar, and they are moving forward towards grid neutrality at a rate of 3% per year.

Check out the full story [here](#).

### TWO DATES TO KNOW...

In 2011, we are expecting thousands of schools to be involved - on the Moving Planet schools day of action, which coincides with **World Car-Free day - Thursday September 22nd**, and then joining with organisers around the world for the **Moving Planet global day of action on Saturday September 24th**.

### WHY SHOULD SCHOOLS GET INVOLVED?

This year's day of action is an ideal opportunity for action-based learning about climate change and the world for students and schools - through bike to school events, walking buses, or transforming schoolyards from asphalt into ecosystems.

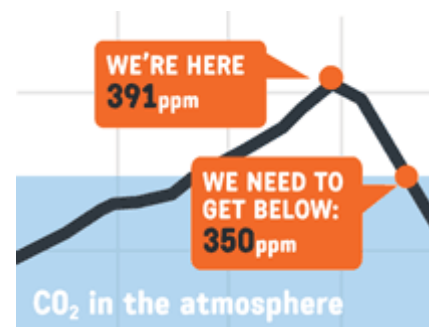
It is important for young people to learn about climate change - it is the definitive issue for young people. Within their lifetimes, young people will have to deal with massive climate-driven social, economic, cultural, political and environmental shifts. The most recent science, for example, indicates that there will be a minimum of one metre of sea level rise by the end of the century. That's a whole new world by 2100!

The 350 movement provides a positive, fun, creative way for students to explore the issue of climate change, and what it might mean for their future. It's also their chance to engage with decision makers about the sort of future they would prefer for their world, and share ideas about how we might collectively start moving in that direction.



### WHAT IS 350?

350 parts per million (ppm) is, according to leading climate scientists, the safe upper limit for carbon dioxide in our atmosphere. From the beginning of human civilisation until the Industrial Revolution, global atmospheric carbon dioxide did not exceed about 280ppm. The current concentration is 391ppm, and rising by about 2ppm annually. What could we do to turn it around?



Getting back to 350 is a unique opportunity to remake our schools and communities in ways that are healthier, more locally self-sufficient, and honor traditional and indigenous wisdom. We can get away from relying so heavily on sources of fuel and food that come from far away, and instead grow more of our own food locally, ride bikes and public transit, depend on local energy systems like wind and solar, and create economies that aren't as dependent upon limitless growth. These types of solutions help create communities that are not only friendlier to our climate, but are also healthier for our children's lungs and our collective well-being.

### BUT HOW DOES DOING A MOVING PLANET ACTION FIT INTO THE CURRICULUM AND CLASS WORK?

There is a range of ways that engaging your class or school in a Moving Planet action can link to your curriculum and class work. Each country has its own unique curriculum - these are just some examples based on the New Zealand curriculum:

In engaging with the concept of Moving Planet, and planning an action, students will be exploring and developing the following Values -  
Excellence; Innovation, inquiry and curiosity; Diversity; Equity; Community and participation; Ecological sustainability; Integrity; Respect for self, others, and human rights.

They will also be making use of each of the Key Competencies:

- **Thinking** - Linking climate change and the 350/Moving Planet concept to local and national consequences. Researching the implications of climate change and the 350/Moving Planet concept for the local context. Critically analysing information gathered. Using the Moving Planet concept to shape action.
- **Relating to Others** - Working together with others to create an event / decide on shared values and messages.
- **Participating and Contributing** - Being part of a school and wider community with responsibility not only at the local level but as New Zealanders and as global citizens.
- **Using Language, Symbols and Text** - Using/understanding the science behind the '350' and 'Moving Planet' symbol. Constructing relevant local messages in appropriate formats.
- **Managing Self** - Meta-cognitive understanding of the role of the '350' symbol in raising awareness / representing values / giving messages. Working as part of a group to set a goal, make plans, manage a project.

## **FOUR STEPS TO MOVING PLANET ACTION SUCCESS**

### **1. Register an Action:**

Go to [www.moving-planet.org](http://www.moving-planet.org), get inspired by actions being planned at other schools, and follow the link to register your own school's action on the global site.

### **2. Plan the Action:**

The most effective actions are the ones that really walk the talk. How can your action support your community's independence from fossil fuels? How can you make the action have a lasting positive impact for your school, as well as getting the message through to your political leaders?

You might also like to consider:

- Inviting the community, to spread the message more widely.
- Building the buzz, through local media (important!) and engagement with local groups.
- Engaging local politicians, to ensure that today's decision makers hear the students' message.
- Making a banner, to make sure the 350 message gets through!

### **3. Take Action!**

The details of the action are up to you, but there are a few key components –

- Make sure you take a photo of the people at your event with a Moving Planet and/or 350 banner (whatever shape it might take!)
- Gather people's contact details, so you can keep in touch with them after the event, and keep the local momentum going!
- Have a fun and meaningful day. Your school is part of a very important global movement!

#### **4. Follow Up:**

This is very important - as soon as your action is over, choose your best photo and upload it to the global Moving Planet website. The photos will be used to build a global voice for a fair and ambitious commitment to solving the climate crisis - locally and globally. It's also important to follow up with your local media and politicians, so your message gets through.

#### **RESOURCES**

There are lots of useful resources that can help with your action planning

- Check out the science in [handy fact-sheet format](#) or our [solutions sheet](#).
- Want to turn your asphalt into a climate friendly ecosystem? Check out the 'Asphalt to Ecosystems' website [here](#).

Also, have a look at the Alliance for Climate Education resources here:

- [ACE Teacher Resources](#)
- [ACE Teacher Lesson Plans](#)
- [ACE FAQs](#)