



CLUBS

LEADER'S GUIDE

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1: Welcome!.....	1
2: Getting started.....	2
Planning a Mission.....	2
Celebrating Success and the Mission Report.....	3
3: Tips for Leaders.....	4
Meeting Location and Time.....	4
Recruiting Members.....	4
Club Meetings.....	5
The First Meeting.....	6
4: Earth Rangers.....	7
About Earth Rangers.....	7
About Eco-Anxiety.....	8



1: WELCOME!

Welcome to our nation-wide community of Earth Rangers Clubs!

Made for educators by educators, Earth Rangers Clubs is an easy and fun way to run an impactful eco-club for kids in your school or community. The foundation of Earth Rangers Clubs is supporting children-led eco-action: kids learn best and develop skills by doing and reflecting.

Earth Rangers Clubs are organized around engaging and fun missions like “Swap Superstar” and “Rubbish Roundup”. In each mission, clubs learn more about an environmental concern – such as our carbon footprint and climate change – and, importantly, as a team come up with an action project to address the issue and make a real difference in their local community!

Leading a club takes a lot of work and planning, that’s why we’ve done it all for you! This guide offers everything a Club Leader needs to make starting and running a club simple and straightforward. We also recognize that all leaders have different backgrounds and experiences; you can use this guide as much or as little as you need.

By participating in Earth Rangers Clubs, you can guide your local kids in learning about and contributing to much-needed environmental action.

Together, we can make a positive future a reality!

Benefits of an Earth Rangers Club:

- ✓ Ready-to-go group Missions
- ✓ Resources for guidance and support
- ✓ Supports EcoSchools certification
- ✓ Be part of an environmental action community and gain recognition



2: GETTING STARTED

THE FIRST STEP IS TO CHOOSE A MISSION.

When you log into your Earth Rangers Clubs account, you see different Clubs Missions to choose from. Each mission deals with an environmental issue. Club members first learn more about the topics in interactive ways and then spearhead a project to address it in their community.

When you click on a Mission, you will have access to everything you need to support your club in completing the mission. Missions do not need to be completed in any particular order.

Each Clubs Mission kit contains:

- ✓ Suggested breakdown for meetings
- ✓ Clubs Leader background information and planning notes
- ✓ Toolkit full of ready-to-use organizational templates, tracking sheets, a debrief journal

Planning a Mission

Each mission is divided into 5 stages, with step-by-step instructions and support material for each stage:

STEP 1: INVESTIGATE & BRAINSTORM – Club members learn about an environmental issue using resources and activities provided.

STEP 2: PLAN – Club members decide on everything that needs to be done and who will do it.

STEP 3: PREPARE – Club members get their hands dirty and prepare their project!

STEP 4: CARRY OUT THE PROJECT – The club holds their event or campaign!

STEP 5: REFLECT & CELEBRATE – Club members analyze the impact of their project and celebrate their success.

Celebrating Success and the Mission Report

After filling out the Mission Completed form, they receive their Mission Accomplished Certificate.

Earth Rangers will celebrate your success! Clubs are recognized on the [Earth Rangers website](#), social media and in the Earth Rangers Homeroom Newsletter, so everyone can see the impact that Earth Rangers Clubs are making!

Finally, is time for your club to celebrate. Ideas for celebration, such as a pizza party or craft day, can be found in the [Earth Rangers Clubs Resource Kit](#).

Don't forget to take pictures of your club in action!
Share them with your school, community, and in your Mission Report to celebrate your success!

Engage with us online by using #EarthRangersClubs!

IMPORTANT: Please ensure that you have parental permission before posting photos of children online. Earth Rangers will obtain consent prior to publicly posting any submitted photos.





3: TIPS FOR LEADERS

Here are a few basic tips to get your Earth Rangers Club started. We want to make sure every leader feels confident. Depending on your background and experiences, some tips may be more applicable than others. The Earth Rangers Clubs program is all about flexibility and adaptability.

Meeting Location and Time

Earth Rangers Clubs meet in many different places such as schools, community centres, libraries and even parks. When selecting a venue for club meetings, ensure it is a comfortable and accessible. Club members can make posters to put on the door while the club is meeting to help make the venue feel special.

Many Earth Rangers Clubs meet once a week for about 40 minutes. Our suggestions for meetings are created with this in mind, but you can easily adapt them to fit a different schedule.

Recruiting Members

There are many different ways to recruit members. You can use announcements, such as posters or peer-to-peer recruitment. If you are looking for some inspiration, suggestions and templates can be found in the [Earth Rangers Clubs Resource Kit](#).

Club Meetings

Elementary school kids have diverse interests and attention spans, so variety and fun should be the guiding principles for engaging meetings. Below are some tips to ensure club meetings run smoothly:

Demonstrate your passion about the club and eco-action: Your enthusiasm will be contagious and will keep members interested.

Lead by Example: Practice what you preach. Show that you are committed to eco-friendly practices, such as recycling, conserving energy, and reducing waste.

Create a safe, supportive and inclusive environment: Make sure that everyone's voice is heard and respected, and that all members feel they belong and can contribute.

Establish Ground Rules: It is important to set boundaries regarding acceptable and unacceptable behaviour. During the first meeting, establish some ground rules that everyone agrees to.

Disruptive behaviour: It is important to address disruptive behaviour. The best way is to intervene early. If there is a member that is beginning to bother other members, give them something special to do.

Document Progress: Keep track of the club's progress, achievements, and challenges so you can share the club's impact.

Be Adaptable: Be flexible and adapt your meeting plan when needed. For example, if you notice that the club is tired or not "into" an activity, change it up. Ideas for games and activities can be found in the [Earth Rangers Clubs Resource Kit](#).



The First Meeting

The first meeting is important as it sets the tone for the club and can be intimidating. But don't worry, here are some sure-fire ways to make the first meeting a success:

Name tags: Have the members wear name tags, especially if they don't know each other.

Decorate the meeting space: This could include posters about environmental topics.

Introduce yourself and why you are passionate about the environment.

Explain the club's purpose: Start the meeting by outlining the club's goals and objectives. Emphasize the fact that the club will take action to make real positive impact in their community.

Ice Breakers: Even if the kids already know each other, icebreaker activities are a fun way to help members get to know each other and build a sense of camaraderie within the club. Suggestions for ice breakers can be found in the [Earth Rangers Clubs Resource Kit](#).

Begin to Form a Plan: Brainstorm about the topics that are important to the members and use this to guide the choice of mission and potential events and activities. Involve them in making decisions.

Select a Club Name: Your name can simple be 'Earth Rangers Club', or something specific to your community or school.

Most of all,
have fun!





4: EARTH RANGERS CLUBS SUPPORT

If you are facing any challenges, in need of support, or want to share a story about something that has worked for you, please send us an email at clubs@earthrangers.com. We would love to hear from you!

FEEDBACK WELCOME

We are interested in knowing how your Club is doing and what Club Missions you are completing. Continually improving the program is one of our priorities, so we welcome your feedback.

Thank you for taking this step to support the next generation of environmental leaders!

About Earth Rangers

Earth Rangers is the kids' conservation organization, committed to instilling environmental knowledge, positivity, and the confidence to take action in every child in Canada. We do this through a suite of free programming that children can participate in at school, at home, and in their communities. All of these programs are educational and engaging – but more importantly, they show children that it's not too late to help the planet, and the things we do today will matter tomorrow.



About Eco-Anxiety

Eco-Anxiety describes the distress one feels about the future of the environment. With so much news about climate change and impending ecological disasters, it is understandable that the next generation is fearful about what's to come.

As adults, the best way to help youth is by guiding and supporting them in taking eco-action. A research study about Eco-Anxiety in children and their parents carried out by [Earth Rangers and Ipsos Canada \(2021\)](#) identified 5 Es which drive eco-action:

EMPATHY: Providing space and opportunities to discuss climate change and other environmental concerns.

EDUCATION: Offering learning opportunities about climate change and suggesting actions that can be taken to protect the natural environment.

ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP: Finding opportunities to spend more time outdoors to help foster a deeper connection to nature and spark new, tangible ways that kids can protect the natural environment.

EXCITEMENT: Making conservation activities and learning about the natural environment something for kids to look forward to.

EMPOWERMENT: Giving kids ways to teach adults how to protect nature

The Earth Rangers Clubs program has been designed with these 5 Es in mind. By empowering young people, and showing them that working together and educating others will move the needle on environmental issues, this program provides children with quality leadership opportunities, encourages them to adopt sustainable habits, and helps them to feel more connected to their school or community.

As an additional support for educators, Earth Rangers has developed the 5-week online "[From Eco-Anxiety to Eco-Action](#)" [Micro Credential](#). Based on research conducted by Earth Rangers, Ipsos Canada and leading experts, this course helps equip educators to respond to children's feelings when discussing the environment and explores strategies to empower students to take action.

[Check out our website](#) to learn more about the course and the details about upcoming sessions.