

A FUN AT-HOME ACTIVITY FOR FAMILIES

DESIGNING A GREEN SCHOOL

Help your child think like a sustainable architect! Together, you'll explore how schools can be designed to save energy, reduce waste, and help the environment.

WHAT YOU'LL NEED:



Paper



Crayons or Markers

Optional Supplies:



Tape or glue



Recycled materials



Tablet for digital drawings



Solar-powered toy, or plant seeds



Camera

Want to see green building in action? To learn more about school planning, construction, and projects, visit puysallupsd.org/capitalprojects. Explore how schools are built and improved to support student learning!

STEP 1: IMAGINE A GREENER SCHOOL (10 MINUTES)

Start with a fun conversation:

- "How can schools help the environment?"
- "What are some ways we can save energy and water?"

Introduce sustainability features schools use:

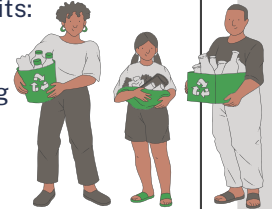
- **Solar Panels** – Use sunlight to generate electricity.
- **Rainwater Collection** – Captures rain to water plants or flush toilets.
- **Energy-Efficient Windows** – Keep heat in during winter and out during summer.
- **Green Roofs & Gardens** – Help with insulation and provide fresh air.
- **Recycling & Composting** – Reduce waste and help the Earth.

STEP 2: FIND WAYS TO SAVE ENERGY AT HOME (10-15 MINUTES)

Walk around your home and identify eco-friendly habits:

- Turning off lights when leaving a room
- Using reusable water bottles instead of plastic
- Opening windows instead of using air conditioning
- Recycling paper, plastic, and glass

Challenge: What are three ways your family can be more sustainable?



STEP 3: DESIGN YOUR OWN GREEN SCHOOL!! (15-20 MINUTES)

- **Option 1: Draw it** – Sketch a school with eco-friendly features.
- **Option 2: Build it** – Use Legos, blocks, or recycled materials to create a model.
- **Option 3: Go digital** – Design a school using an app like SketchUp or Canva Whiteboard.

**Encourage your child to include at least three sustainable features in their design!*

STEP 4: SHARE & DISCUSS (10 MINUTES)

Have your child explain their project:

- "What makes your school environmentally friendly?"
- "Which feature do you think would help the most?"

Bonus: Take a picture of their project and share it with the Foundations for Our Future (FFOF) crew at capitalproject@puysallupsd.org a few lucky designs will be shared on our FFOF Facebook and Instagram pages.