



THE FAIRCHILD CHALLENGE

Changing the way we understand and live with nature

Take on a challenge:

1. Writing: Nearby Nature Haikus
2. Personal Action: Be the Change
3. Visual Art:
 - A. Environmental Change
 - B. Spring Blooms of Western PA
4. Project Design: Green Up Your School
5. Video: My Climate Future
6. Environmental Action

MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Win up to \$1000 for your school and get yourself a pair of passes to Phipps Conservatory and Botanical Gardens.

fairchildchallengeatphipps.org



Middle School Challenge 1: Nearby Nature Haiku

YOUR CHALLENGE: Did you know that teens spend an average of 7 ½ hours a day consuming media through television, cell phones, computers, and tablets? This means young people do not experience the outdoors as much as they use to.

Your task is to research traditional haikus that depict images from nature and then take time for quiet observation in your favorite park, garden, or backyard! Leave your electronics behind! Use this experience as inspiration for a haiku.

Due at Phipps by Friday, Oct. 23, 2015:

- Challenge entry form
- Book of Haikus with up to 20 poems (5 points per poem)
- Original illustration on cover

For challenge details: fairchildchallengeatphipps.org





Challenge 2: Be the Change

YOUR CHALLENGE: As individuals, we may feel that we can't affect change. However, small actions can go a long way. Your task is to research ways that humans can mitigate climate change through lifestyle changes and then decide on and commit to one action. Recruit at least one family member to do this with you. Keep a record of your actions for a month and then reflect on the experience through an essay.

Due at Phipps by Friday, November 20, 2015:

- Challenge entry form
- Up to 2 essays (100 points/essay)

For challenge details: fairchildchallengeathipps.org





Global Challenge 3A: Environmental Change

YOUR CHALLENGE: How do plants respond to changes in our environment? Pick a plant species and do some research on how it has been affected by climate change.

Make a 5 panel comic strip which documents the changes the plant of your choice has made. Have fun and be creative! This is the Global Challenge, so your entry has the chance to be featured online for public judging!

Due at Phipps by Friday, December 18, 2015:

- Challenge Entry Form
- 2 comic strips (100 points/ entry)

For challenge details: fairchildchallengeathipps.org





Challenge 3B: Spring Blooms of Western Pennsylvania

YOUR CHALLENGE: Not everyone is a fan of change, but hopefully we can all agree that the first sight of purple petals and green leaves is refreshing after a long, snowy winter. Your job is to create a drawing using either colored pencil or ink to depict one of the plants or trees that flower in our region during springtime.

Due at Phipps by Friday, December 18, 2015:

- Challenge entry form
- Two drawings (100 points/entry)

For challenge details: fairchildchallengeathipps.org





Challenge 4: Green Up Your School

YOUR CHALLENGE: On a beautiful, warm spring day, do you ever wish your class could work outside? Or that you could eat lunch under the shade of a tree? Do you find that you are more productive after time spent in nature? More designers and architects are realizing the importance of incorporating nature into the built environment.

Research the concepts and ideas behind biophilic design and then apply what you learn to an original plan for your school. Imagine you have all the resources and money you may need!

Due at Phipps by Friday, February 5, 2016:

- Challenge entry form
- Written explanation
- One plan and visual representation

For challenge details: fairchildchallengeathipps.org





Challenge 5: My Climate Future

YOUR CHALLENGE: Future generations will one day lead the charge to a greener, more sustainable future. Today's young people will have to address the reality of climate change and find creative ways to maintain our quality of life without harming the environment.

However, we want to hear what you think right now! Create a video that describes the reality of climate change and inspires viewers to take personal actions in response to this knowledge. This challenge involves talents from all the disciplines, so work together and be creative!

Due at Phipps by Friday, March 18, 2016:

- Challenge entry form
- One video

For challenge details: fairchildchallengeatphipps.org





Challenge 6: Environmental Action

YOUR CHALLENGE: How do you engage others to work towards a healthier, more sustainable future? Well, you're about to find out! In this challenge, we are asking you to pick an activity or activities that raise environmental awareness and conservation in one of three target areas: home, school, or community. Throughout the school year, try to engage as many students as possible in these efforts.

The best initiatives are those that have a lasting effect and can benefit your home, school, and community for years to come! Create a tri-fold or report which documents your efforts, process, and results.

Due at Phipps by Friday, April 29, 2016

- Challenge entry form
- 1 tri-fold of 1 report
- List of involved students/classes

For challenge details: fairchildchallengeatphipps.org

