



MEDIA RELEASE
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New Resource Provides a Model for Implementing Science Curriculum in Combined-Grade Classrooms

(Toronto) – The Curriculum Foundation (TCF) is pleased to announce the release of a new teaching resource, *Eco Footprints*, developed by educators Angela Tompkins and Sharon Lancia of Queen Victoria Public School in Lindsay, Ontario. Angela and Sharon received funding for the development of this resource through a TCF grant. *Eco Footprints* models how to teach science curriculum to combined-grade classrooms from Grades 1 through 8. Throughout the model, consideration is given to how students in both grades can participate in the same activities, which are differentiated by the content unique to each grade. The model suggests strategies and activities for increasing learners' understanding of good stewardship for the environment by asking students to make connections between science, technology, society, and the environment.

Eco Footprints suggests that teachers begin their planning by identifying the big ideas in the curriculum for each grade level and then determining the commonalities that emerge between the grades. Teachers of combined grades can adapt this flexible model as they plan instruction for any combination of elementary grades.

Teachers can download *Eco Footprints* and many other free resources at our website, www.curriculum.org. Simply select Classroom Resources' on the toolbar, then select 'Teacher-Developed – Free!'

Each year, The Curriculum Foundation awards grants to Canadian educators for their unique resource proposals for classroom resources. The Curriculum Foundation (TCF) is the charitable arm of Curriculum Services Canada, the Pan-Canadian standards agency for quality assurance in learning products and programs. A registered charity, TCF accepts donations to provide teachers with funding for developing resources that enrich learning for students.

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