

Earth Hour Challenge



Durham District School Board
Earth Hour Challenge
March 28, 2008, 10:00 – 11:00 a.m.
www.durham.edu.on.ca

Over 90% of schools registered their participation in the event, taking up the challenge with great enthusiasm. In addition to turning off their lights some schools did so for the whole day schools reported numerous interesting and creative ways they celebrated the day, including:

- School assemblies
- Environmentally-themed reading in classrooms and between reading buddies
- One Grade 7 class built an indoor "bonfire" (with tissue paper fire), spending time in a sharing circle
- Brainstorming ways to conserve energy, as individuals and collectively
- Kindergarten classes touring the hallways singing the song reminding everyone to turn off lights
- Special environmental presentations
- Showing environmental videos
- Presenting student certificates of achievement for taking part in the DDSB Earth Hour Challenge

Make A Difference ...
One At A Time

More than 3600 kWh saved!

On March 28, 2008, Durham District School Board schools were invited to participate in the DDSB Earth Hour Challenge. Participating schools were encouraged to turn off any classroom and non-essential lighting and appliances, between 10:00 and 11:00 a.m., to show their support for the Global Earth Hour taking place Saturday, March 29, 2008, 8:00 to 9:00 p.m.

The response from schools across the Board was overwhelming, with several schools reporting that they plan to have an Earth Hour event on the last Friday of each month!

Many schools provided energy data on the number of lights turned off. Using the data, we can calculate that, for all DDSB schools, we saved a total of approximately 3600 - 4000 kWh for the hour. This translates to the equivalent of removing 360 cars off the road for the day. We saved the same amount of carbon dioxide (CO₂) it would have taken over 600 trees a whole year to absorb!

A huge thanks to all the staff and students participating in the DDSB Earth Hour Challenge! Our students have seen how our actions can truly make a difference...one at a time!



Secretaries at Anderson CVI donned the latest Earth Hour fashions on March 28th...glow in the dark!

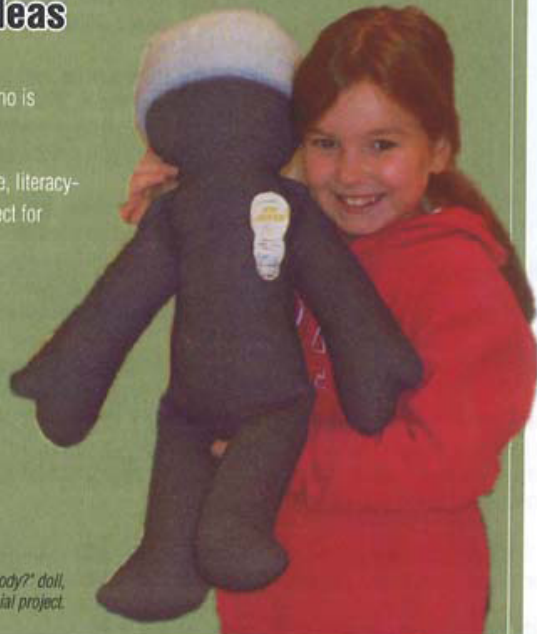
Who is Nobody? inspires "bright" ideas

Allyson Rail, a Grade 4 student at F.M. Heard PS, is one of many students in the DDSB who is working on a community project for the "Who Is Nobody?" program.

As reported in the December 2007 issue of Durham Digest, "Who Is Nobody?" is a unique, literacy-based, program that provides students with the opportunity to develop empathy and respect for others by getting involved in service projects that reflect their interests.

Allyson's project combined community involvement with her interest in environmental issues. She offered an energy-saving light bulb to all the neighbours on her street, along with a flyer explaining how much electrical energy and how much money they would save by using the light bulb for one year.

Allyson believes that each of us can make a difference, one small step at a time. We are proud of Allyson and all the environmentally-minded students at F.M. Heard PS.



Allyson Rail of F.M. Heard PS poses with her "Who is Nobody?" doll, and the energy-saving light bulb pin that represents her special project.