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Kimberley school has worms



Photo submitted Lindsay Park Elementary students are using vermicomposting to compete in the BC Green Games.

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Would you like to help Lindsay Park Elementary win \$500 and celebrate students' green projects? Until March 15, British Columbians are encouraged to go online and vote for Viewer's Choice Awards in BC Green Games. It's the second year of this province-wide eco-action contest from Science World.

The contest, with over \$20,000 in prizes to be awarded to BC schools, celebrates and shares eco-actions from BC's students. Projects are submitted using creative media such as videos or photo-essays. The Viewer's Choice Awards will see four \$500 prizes awarded—two to elementary schools and two to secondary schools.

“We're thrilled with the inspiring projects submitted by students from all across BC,” says Pauline Finn, the vice

president of Community Engagement for Science World. “It will be a tough decision for viewers to pick their favourites amongst the videos, PowerPoint presentations and other digital media projects. BC’s students are proving they not only think green, they act green.”

Lindsay Park Elementary’s project has taken vermicompost to a new level, where every student, Kindergarten to Grade three, has multifaceted opportunities for exploring, learning and sharing their knowledge.

The school has ten vermicompost bins and students take turns collecting compost waste from around the school to feed the worms. In working on the project, students have learned that vermicomposting is an environmentally responsible choice, as it keeps valuable resources out of landfills.

Besides learning about nutrients that can be recycled and reducing the need for chemical pesticides and fertilizers, they also learn just about everything they can about worms—their partners in this project. They also worked on their math skills by weighing and graphing the weight of compost and estimating the amount of worms in the bins. They have created worm sock puppets and intend to put together vermicompost kits they intend to sell as a school fundraiser.

Projects can be viewed at www.bcgreengames.ca. The hope is that students and teachers will also use the website as a resource for ideas to create a greener future in their own communities.

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