



Oklahoma Green Schools Program

6 Steps to Certification

STEP 3: CONDUCT A PLT SCHOOL INVESTIGATION

Overview- The 5 Project Learning Tree (PLT) School Investigations form the core of the OGSP educational component. These 5 investigations (Energy, Water, Waste & Recycling, Environmental Quality and School Site) encourage students to take the lead in hands on data collection and analysis. Each investigation covers several topic areas and allows students as well as Green Team members to explore the school building, take measurements, begin discussions and look for opportunities to make a difference. A toolkit is available for check out from the OGSP website and can be a fun way to incorporate STEM concepts into instruction.

Action Items-

- Watch the Step 3 training video!
- On the PLT website, www.plt.org, select and download one School Investigation to begin your greening efforts.
- On the OGSP website, www.okgreenschools.org, under 'Resources', examine the toolkit contents and request one if appropriate.
- Conduct the investigation. When completed, organize the data into a meaningful 'report of findings' that is age appropriate for your students.

Additional Ideas- Your data analysis is beginning to paint a picture of the health, efficiency and overall environment of your school. You will likely notice areas that are going well and areas for improvement. Encourage your students to ask questions and explore further if some data measure significantly out of the expected range. Discuss the 'Scientific Method'. If an entire investigation is too much, choose one topic to get started.

Completed this Step? - When you complete the Step 3 Action Items, go to the website, www.okgreenschools.org. Navigate to the '6 Steps to Certification' page and next to Step 3, click on the **FINISHED** button. Complete the question(s) and click **SUBMIT**. You will have the option of requesting a Watt Meter to keep for your classroom and information on how to put together your own toolkit.