

WHY MORE TREES ON SCHOOL GROUNDS, PERIMETERS AND ADJACENT STREETS?

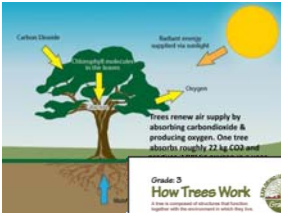


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Trees help teach STEM and NGSS lessons

- Benefits of trees and all living things' dependency on plants
 - Carbon-oxygen cycle
- Life sciences
 - Structure and function
- Earth sciences
 - Water quality, climate impacts
- Appreciation for what it takes to care for trees




Resources and K-5 lessons at <http://sdrufc.com/trees-schools/>

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Most school grounds are similar to parking lots, with asphalt paving and only a few trees

- Asphalt grounds generate a lot more heat than areas with vegetation, as "heat islands"
- Trees help to minimize the heat island effect
- Children play in the sun and on asphalt
- Teachers have no place for outdoor lessons




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Trees can be planted in many places on school grounds

- At the edges of the asphalt, to shade play areas
- In areas where students can take a break in the shade
- Where trees can provide shaded outdoor classrooms
- Where trees can cool buildings
- Sidewalks in front of schools, drop-off and waiting areas, and nearby bus stops
- Add trees to Joint-Use parks (SD Unified)



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Trees along school perimeters and school routes benefit residents as well as students

Trees and other plants:

- Improve walkability and provide a more pleasant and shaded outdoor experience
- Promote community pride and social interaction
- Encourage exercise and outdoor leisure activities
- Support “Safe Routes to School”




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What can MG School Garden Consultants do to increase tree canopy and tree benefits?

- Walk around the schoolyard to map the trees
- Talk with teachers and administrators about the benefits of trees for outdoor play and learning
- Offer to share tree-based lessons for science and other subjects
- Identify places that trees could be planted
 - At edges of play areas or creating quiet
 - Next to classrooms, and in outdoor learning areas
 - At school driveways and parking lots
 - On parkways and school routes, along streets
- Work with parents, PTA and other groups to water trees
- Report street tree problems (City of San Diego) to <https://www.sandiego.gov/get-it-done>




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What can MG School Garden Consultants do to increase tree canopy and tree benefits?

- Where are the trees in the schoolyards in your school(s)?
- Where could there be trees in these schoolyards?
- What kind of trees could be planted?
- What tree issues do teachers and administrators raise? (+ or -)
- What steps have worked, to plan or plant trees?
- What steps have not worked, in your efforts to plant trees?
- What tree maintenance issues are there in your schoolyards?
- What other suggestions do you have?



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Let's work together to help create Great schools and Great neighborhoods with Trees



<https://www.greenschoolyards.org>
<http://sdrufc.com/trees-schools/>

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