

Student Survey (elementary)

Tell us your thoughts about our school grounds

Why survey? Take students outside to do the survey if you can. They will give more complete answers when they are physically in the place they are thinking about. Having students take adults on a tour can be a good way to explore how they feel about the grounds as well as what they know. Help them to “think seasonally”—how will the school ground be used throughout the year? Use or adapt the student questionnaire below for your own group as a way to get started!

Name: _____ Grade: _____

School: _____

Part A — How do you use the school grounds?

1. What times of the day do you play in the school grounds?

2. What do you do when you play in the school grounds?

3. What do you like to do best?

4. What do you play with?

5. Where do you play? Why?

6. Where don't you play? Why?

7. Are there places to get out of the wind, rain, and sun?

8. Are there places where you can sit quietly to talk with a friend or read a book?

Part B — How do you feel about the school grounds?

1. What are the things you like the most about the school grounds?

2. What are the things you don't like at all about the school grounds?

3. Do you have a favourite place in the school yard? What makes it special?

4. Are there any places where you don't feel safe in the school grounds?

5. What would you like to be able to do in the school grounds that you can't do now?

6. What would make your school grounds more interesting?

7. Are there places that you think could be made more colourful?

8. Make a wish list of things you'd like to include in the school grounds.

* Adapted from *All Hands in the Dirt: A Guide to Designing and Creating Natural School Grounds*, www.evergreen.ca/en/resources/schools/all-hands/