



April Theme: Shout It Out

Due Date: April 30, 2024

Challenge #24: Transform Your Community

As we share good news and advocate for positive change, we are contributing to a better future for all. Your challenge is to lead by example as you establish a visible transformation in your community. Some examples could be transforming an area of grass into a bed of native wildflowers, advocating for school gardens, picking up litter, restoring a public space, etc.

Challenge #25: Budding Naturalist

Your challenge is to lead a guided walk through a natural area while pointing out interesting plants and features and explaining the significance of the space. You are asked to plan, deliver and reflect on a walk and talk experience.

Challenge #26: Celebratory Newsletter

Your challenge is to share your experiences of the past school year with your family, friends and community members. You should create a newsletter that highlights your accomplishments from the past year and looks forward to future activities.

“The planet does not need more successful people. The planet desperately needs more peacemakers, healers, restorers, storytellers, and lovers of all kinds.”

~ The Dalai Lama



This page intentionally left blank.



Challenge #24: Transform Your Community

April

Description

When we share good news and advocate for positive change, we are contributing to a better future for all. Your challenge is to lead by example as you establish a visible transformation in your community. Some examples could be transforming an area of grass into a bed of native wildflowers, advocating for school gardens, picking up litter, restoring a public space, etc. Entries should include before and after photos and a reflection (see the rubric on the next page for details).



Resources

For inspiration and ideas, see <https://civicgardencenter.org/green-teens-challenge>. For further support, email us at greenteens@civicgardencenter.org.

Steps to Success

- Step 1:** Read the description (above) and rubric (next page) for Challenge #24.
- Step 2:** Determine what kind of work you would like to do for your community (tree planting, invasive removal, pollinator garden install, adding garden beds, garbage cleanup, etc.).
- Step 3:** Set date for event. Invite outside community members to see the transformation (including the Green Teens Team!).
- Step 4:** Assign tasks to group members (photographer, scheduler, coordinator, etc.).
- Step 5:** Create a work plan for the event.
- Step 6:** Host the event.
- Step 7:** Write your own reflection and get a reflection from a community member.
- Step 8:** Make sure your name and email are written clearly and that you have submitted all pieces of your submission.
- Step 9:** Review the rubric to make sure you have met all the “Full Points” column.
- Step 10:** Submit and celebrate!

Don't forget the rubric on the next page!

Challenge #24: Transform Your Community Rubric

	Full Points	Half Points	No Points
Photo Documentation	At least three photos that clearly show a visible transformation before, during and after the work	Photos include parts of the process and final transformation but “before” photos are missing	Photos do not clearly show a visible transformation
Type of Transformation	Transformation is environmentally beneficial and relevant to the community	Transformation is relevant to the community but not environmentally beneficial	Transformation is not relevant to community or environmentally beneficial
Reflection	Reflection includes five complete sentences that describe why this transformation was chosen and how it will benefit the community. Includes reflection from one student and one community member involved in the transformation	Reflection is less than five sentences long or includes a reflection from one student but no community members	Reflection is missing
Student Information	Student names and email addresses are clearly written		Student names and email addresses are missing
Due Date	Challenge was submitted by the due date of April 30		Challenge was not submitted by due date

Did you...

- Complete the Steps to Success checklist on the previous page?
- Make note of the submission due date?
- Email us for support (greenteens@civicgardencenter.org)?

Standards Alignment

- Meets this ELA standard: SL.9-10.1b

Challenge #25: Budding Naturalist

April

Description

Your challenge is to lead a guided walk through a natural area while pointing out interesting plants and features and explaining the significance of the space. You are asked to plan, deliver and reflect on a walk and talk experience. The walk and talk does not need to be in the woods, but it should be outdoors. The submission should consist of a script, photos and a reflection (see the rubric on the next page for details).



Resources

For inspiration and ideas, see <https://civiggardencenter.org/green-teens-challenge>. For further support, email us at greenteens@civiggardencenter.org.

Steps to Success

- Step 1:** Read the description (above) and rubric (next page) for Challenge #25.
- Step 2:** Determine a topic for the walk & talk. A great way to start is to decide where you are going to walk.
- Step 3:** Once the location is chosen, outline your talking points of the walk. Talking points should highlight aspects of the site, significant features, and personal stories.
- Step 4:** Practice walk & talk at least two times.
- Step 5:** Invite friends, siblings, fellow classmates etc. to join in as you lead them on your walk & talk.
- Step 6:** Have someone take pictures during the walk. Also, include pictures of what plants/features that were highlighted on the walk.
- Step 7:** Write your reflection, include your process and future ideas.
- Step 8:** Make sure your name and email are written clearly and that you have submitted all pieces of your submission.
- Step 9:** Review the rubric to make sure you have met all the “Full Points” column.
- Step 10:** Submit and celebrate!

Don't forget the rubric on the next page!

Challenge #25: Budding Naturalist Rubric

	Full Points	Half Points	No Points
Photo Documentation	Submission includes three photos taken by a participant of the presenter and area during the walk	Submission includes two photos taken by a participant of the presenter and area during the walk	Submission does not include photos of the presenter
Script	Script narrative clearly shows research about the area, including what plants/features are going to be highlighted	Script is written as an outline instead of a narrative but still clearly shows research and highlights	Script is missing significant information and is vague
Reflection	Reflection discusses the process of planning and lists one thing that went well and one thing that could be improved	Reflection is missing one of the elements from the Full Points column	Reflection is missing more than one element from the Full Points column or has grammatical errors
Student Information	Student names and email addresses are clearly written		Student names and email addresses are missing
Due Date	Challenge was submitted by the due date of April 30		Challenge was not submitted by due date

Did you...

- Complete the Steps to Success checklist on the previous page?
- Make note of the submission due date?
- Email us for support (greenteens@civicgardencenter.org)?

Standards Alignment

- **Meets these ELA standards:** W.9-10.3, W.11-12.3, W.9-10.5, W.11-12.5, SL.9-10.5, SL.11-12.5, WHST.9-10.5, WHST.11-12.5

Challenge #26: Celebratory Newsletter

April

Description

Making your voice heard and sharing your accomplishments with your community is important. Your challenge is to share your experiences of the past school year with your family, friends and community members. You should create a newsletter that highlights your accomplishments from the past year and looks forward to future activities. Judges will favor submissions that have a combination of photos and reflections to tell your story (see the rubric on the next page for details).



Resources

For inspiration and ideas, see <https://civicgardencenter.org/green-teens-challenge>. For further support, email us at greenteens@civicgardencenter.org.

Steps to Success

- Step 1:** Read the description (above) and rubric (next page) for Challenge #26.
- Step 2:** Spend time going through what you accomplished each month.
- Step 3:** Create an outline highlighting your stories from the school year.
- Step 4:** Write the first draft of the newsletter.
- Step 5:** Have a classmate or teacher proofread your draft.
- Step 6:** Make final edits, write the final draft and add pictures.
- Step 7:** Add pictures to the newsletter. Caption photos as needed.
- Step 8:** Make sure your name and email are written clearly and that you have submitted all pieces of your submission.
- Step 9:** Review the rubric to make sure you have met all the “Full Points” column.
- Step 10:** Submit and celebrate!

Don't forget the rubric on the next page!

Challenge #26: Celebratory Newsletter Rubric

	Full Points	Half Points	No Points
Newsletter Parameters	Newsletter shares a minimum of four stories about the previous school year, each accompanied by at least one photo	Newsletter shares three stories about the previous school year, each accompanied by at least one photo	Newsletter includes two or fewer stories and/or is missing photos
Newsletter Components	Each story in the newsletter is a minimum of five sentences and clearly describes the lesson or activity and why it was impactful	Newsletter stories are missing one of the components from the Full Points column	Newsletter stories or are missing more than one component from the Full Points column
Newsletter Communication	Newsletter appeals to an audience of all ages and evidence is shown that it has been shared with the community through hard copies or electronically	Newsletter is written for a narrow audience or no evidence is shown that it has been shared with the community	Newsletter includes grammatical errors
Student Information	Student names and email addresses are clearly written		Student names and email addresses are missing
Due Date	Challenge was submitted by the due date of April 30		Challenge was not submitted by due date

Did you...

- Complete the Steps to Success checklist on the previous page?
- Make note of the submission due date?
- Email us for support (greenteens@civicgardencenter.org)?

Standards Alignment

- **Meets these ELA standards:** W.9-10.3, W.11-12.3, W.9-10.5, W.11-12.5, W.9-10.6, W.11-12.6, SL.9-10.5, SL.11-12.5, L.9-10.2, L.11-12.2, WHST.9-10.5, WHST.11-12.5, WHST.9-10.6, WHST.11-12.6, L.9-10.2, L.11-12.2