



Getting started...

The Take Action stage is the most important part of the programme. Real environmental education only occurs when the kids put their learning into action. So here's our chance to make a difference for this, and future, generations.

The action project(s) should be led by the students. By getting them involved in the decision making process, the students become empowered to do something for their waterways. They also have a greater feeling of achievement when they successfully complete their project.

To begin, the students need to research the potential solutions to specific problems. The leaflets and posters provided give specific information on water conservation, pollution prevention and stream restoration (contact us for a class set). The activities on page 33, and their worksheets (**BLMs 13,14,15**), are there to help process this information.

Try to inspire the students to think 'big' and then focus down. They can do this by working through the Action Planner (**BLM 16**) to see if their action project idea is feasible, possible or appropriate. The following page outlines some activities that can scaffold the learning for the students before they embark on the action project itself.

The aim is to get the students **EXCITED, ENTHUSIASTIC** and **MOTIVATED** to do an action project which will help their local waterway. Ideas for some action projects are covered on pages 34-39. Remember though, 'anything goes', so get the kids to be creative.

The Action Crew is here to help

The Action Crew can help you prepare and undertake your action project. If your school is doing the guided programme, the Action Crew will visit your class on 3 occasions in the weeks following the trail.

We can provide:

- Ideas and advice (see pamphlets and teachers' resources on action projects)
- Equipment on loan
- Funding to purchase materials for action projects
- Useful contacts and project mentors/volunteers

All teachers and students can contact the Action Crew to ask for help with action projects. You can call us on 04 384 5708, or email us at actioncrew@gw.govt.nz. Don't forget to visit our website (www.gw.govt.nz) to see what other schools have achieved through their action projects. You can post webpages on the site and find useful links to other organisations.

