



# green schoolyards

FOR HEALTHY  
COMMUNITIES

Dear Colleague,

Thank you for believing in green schoolyards as a powerful strategy for connecting children to the many benefits of nature.

Partners around the world have pledged their support for the vision that *“all U.S. communities offer access to green schoolyards by 2050 to enhance children’s healthy development, community wellbeing and positive environmental impacts.”*

Your advocacy for green schoolyards is essential to achieving this vision. You can learn more and get involved at: [childrenandnature.org/initiatives/schoolyards/sign-on/](https://childrenandnature.org/initiatives/schoolyards/sign-on/)

## Background

We’ve learned that when people understand the benefits of green schoolyards, they support them. The Children & Nature Network offers this “Green Schoolyards Advocacy Toolkit” to help you and your allies confidently “make the case” for green schoolyards, whether the audience is your school board, superintendent, principal, teachers, parents or community members.

To provide the best resources, we surveyed educators from around the world, held focus groups, and received live feedback as we developed our toolkit. As you use the toolkit, we’d love your feedback at [greenschoolyards@childrenandnature.org](mailto:greenschoolyards@childrenandnature.org) so that we can continue to improve it.

If you need more information on school district structure or how to work with your community decision makers, check out the Advocacy Kit at the US Green Building Council’s [CenterforGreenSchools.org](https://www.usgreenbuilding.org/CenterforGreenSchools.org). It’s an amazing resource.

Good luck and keep us posted on your efforts!

Sincerely,

Your friends at the Children & Nature Network



## GREEN SCHOOLYARDS ADVOCACY TOOLKIT:

### Presentation Slide Deck

Use some or all of these slides to make the case for green schoolyards in your community. Slides includes presenter notes.

### Benefits of Green Schoolyards handout

Print and share this 1-page handout to help your community understand the benefits of green schoolyards.

### Green Schoolyards Process handout

Green schoolyard programs are complex. Multiple factors should be considered beyond advocating for and installing them. Learn more!

### Infographics

These four infographics focus on specific benefits of green schoolyards, supported by peer-reviewed research.

### Community Assessment

Use this tool to identify existing support, policies and allies you may already have in your district and community.

### Case Studies

Learn from communities that have successfully implemented green schoolyards programs.

Access the toolkit at [childrenandnature.org/initiatives/schoolyards](https://childrenandnature.org/initiatives/schoolyards).

## MORE RESOURCES from the Children & Nature Network

### Green Schoolyards Resource Hub

Tools for municipal leaders, administrators, school staff, parents and community members to support advocacy, funding, design, implementation, activation and stewardship of citywide or school district-wide green schoolyard programs.  
[childrenandnature.org/initiatives/schoolyards/hub/](https://childrenandnature.org/initiatives/schoolyards/hub/)

### Research Library

Our research team adds new studies on the benefits of nature to our Research Library each month. Use the search function to find the latest on green schoolyards.  
[childrenandnature.org/learn/research](https://childrenandnature.org/learn/research)