

Survey Script

Surveyors:

Thank you for helping conduct the survey. Italic print is information or directions for surveyors. The regular print is what you say to the students. It is important that you follow the script. We are trying to be as consistent as possible so we get the most accurate information. If you have any questions or comments please let us know.

Hi everyone, and thank you for participating in this survey. It is part of a program called ECO₂school. This survey will help us figure out our carbon footprint of commuting to and from school. Your carbon footprint is how much CO₂ you create in your activities (such as exhaling, burning fossil fuels in cars/vehicles, etc.) CO₂ is the primary gas contributing to climate change.

There are no right or wrong answers to these questions. The most important thing is that you are honest so we get accurate data. If you have any questions, raise your hand and I will try to answer them. If you live in two different homes, raise your hand. There is a double-sided survey for you.

Pass out the survey

For Question #1, please tell us the NUMBER of times you travel using those forms of transportation, not an X or a check mark. In a five-day school week, you make 10 one-way trips to school, five to school in the morning and five returning home in the afternoon. Motor vehicles include: cars, motorcycles and trucks.

For Question #2, if you do not travel to school by motor vehicle you can skip this question. For this survey a carpool means traveling to or from school in a car that stays parked at school for the day. Drop off is a vehicle that continues on to another destination. You can mark the number of people who are dropped off but do not include the driver. You should only mark “drive yourself” if you have a driver’s license and you are alone in the car.

Question #3 is used to determine the distance of your commute. This information is exclusively for our statistical data. If you don’t want to include your address, please answer #4 and write the two nearest cross-streets to your house. This information is confidential and will not be shared.

Fill in question #5 if you are interested in being more involved in the ECO₂school leadership program. We will contact you. If you do not want us to contact you, leave # 5 blank.

Conduct the survey. This should take 5 minutes or less.

Thanks everyone for taking the time to fill this out. In the spring, we are going to do the ECO₂school challenge and you’ll be able to track your trips to and from school and earn raffle prizes for using alternative modes of travel. Then we’ll survey you again and see how much we reduced our carbon footprint. Our goal is to reduce our schools’ commute footprint by 20%. Be on the lookout for more information.

Thank the teacher for allowing you into their class.

Frequently Asked Questions:

Even though we try to be clear, students have a lot of questions. Here are some of the most common questions we hear. Please let us know if there are any questions we do not answer that should be listed here.

Q: What does one-way mean?

A: One way means the travelling you do from home to school or from school to home. Round trip would be from home, to school, and back home, a total of 2 one-way trips.

Q: Why do I need to fill out the double-sided survey if I live in more than one home?

A: We assume that the distance is different from each home to school. Please let us know how frequently you stay at one location, and finish the side of the survey for that particular location. The number of trips you make each week should be adjusted according to how much time you spend at the different locations. 25%= 3 trips, 50%= 5 trips and 75%=7 trips. Then turn the page over and complete the other side for the other location.

Q: I come to school on a motorcycle. Is that still considered a motor vehicle? ?

A: Yes, a motorcycle is a motor vehicle

Q: I walk to the bus stop. Should I write walk or bus?

A: List the one that is your primary mode of transportation, the one that carries you the greatest distance.

Q: My mom drives me to school. Why isn't that a carpool? There is more than one person in the car.

A: It is not considered a carpool because your mom has no reason to travel to school other than drop you off, however, if your mom (or parent) works at school and parks for the day, that would be considered a carpool.

Q: I drive to school with my brother. Is that a carpool?

A: For the purpose of this survey, yes, you would fill in #2 as a carpool and include the number of students in the carpool as 2.

Q: I would like to carpool but the law says I am not allowed. If we are part of the challenge, are we allowed to carpool?

A: NO. Even though we think carpooling is a great thing to do, we cannot change the law or encourage you to break it.

Q: Where do I put my name?

A: The surveys are anonymous. We need the information about you but we don't need to know exactly who said what. If you want to be more involved in the ECO₂school leadership program, leave us your name and contact information.