

Converting Curriculum to Online Format Project Summary

Background

The Think Earth Foundation originated in 1988 to develop and distribute a comprehensive environmental education curriculum. Nine instructional units—for preschool through middle-school—were developed and have been distributed free to approximately 40,000 teachers and their one-million students throughout Southern California.

Each unit focuses on specific content objectives, but in all units, students learn the importance of a clean, healthy environment—air, land, water—and learn what they can do to “Think Earth,” meaning:

-  Conserve natural resources
-  Reduce waste
-  Minimize pollution

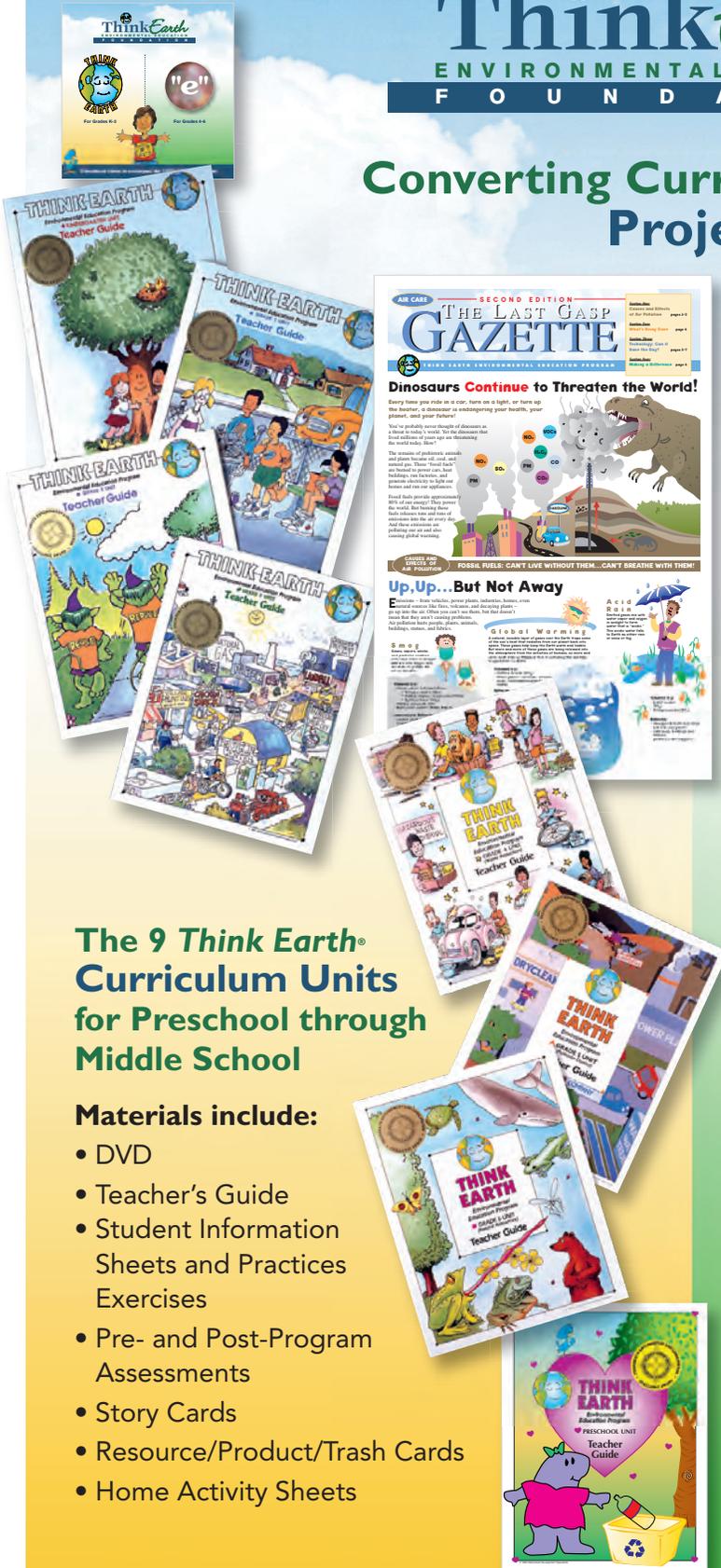
The *Think Earth*® units and the Foundation have won many local, state, and national awards.



The 9 Think Earth® Curriculum Units for Preschool through Middle School

Materials include:

- DVD
- Teacher's Guide
- Student Information Sheets and Practices Exercises
- Pre- and Post-Program Assessments
- Story Cards
- Resource/Product/Trash Cards
- Home Activity Sheets





The Project

After many years of being used and loved by teachers and students, the *Think Earth*® curriculum needs to be updated—both in content and format.

The Foundation has a plan to revise the materials and convert the units to a web-based format, making them available online to all teachers. The **advantages** of putting the Think Earth curriculum online are many.

- **Outreach.** Production and distribution costs of print and audio-visual materials have limited our outreach. With the units online, any teacher nationwide can access high-quality environmental education materials correlated to national standards. We will be able to reach many more teachers and students.
- **Easy Updates.** The curriculum will stay current—educationally and environmentally—as online materials can be easily updated, revised, enhanced.
- **Appeal.** We will make use of current instructional-based technology in the revised materials to be more appealing and more useful to teachers and students.

Our goal is to continue to reach millions of students with the Think Earth® message, helping them to acquire the knowledge, attitudes, and behaviors to make a difference in our environmental future.

www.ThinkEarth.org

• A nonprofit 501(c)3 organization dedicated to helping communities develop and maintain a sustainable environment through education

Benefits of Participation

The Think Earth Curriculum Conversion Project is being funded by partners and sponsors. Organizations that contribute to this project will derive many benefits:

- Opportunity to review and provide input on the environmental content of the updated units.
- Acknowledgement in each online unit and on the Think Earth website.
- Opportunity to promote the curriculum and communicate with teachers through the organization's own website.
- Attainment of conservation/environmental goals through Think Earth Home Surveys and promotion of Earth-friendly behaviors.
- Opportunity to leverage a contribution with other organizations' funds to support a proven, high-quality, comprehensive environmental curriculum.

Think Earth Contacts

To learn more about this project or about the Think Earth Environmental Education Foundation, please email contact@thinkearth.org or visit www.thinkearth.org.

