

E C O Scholars

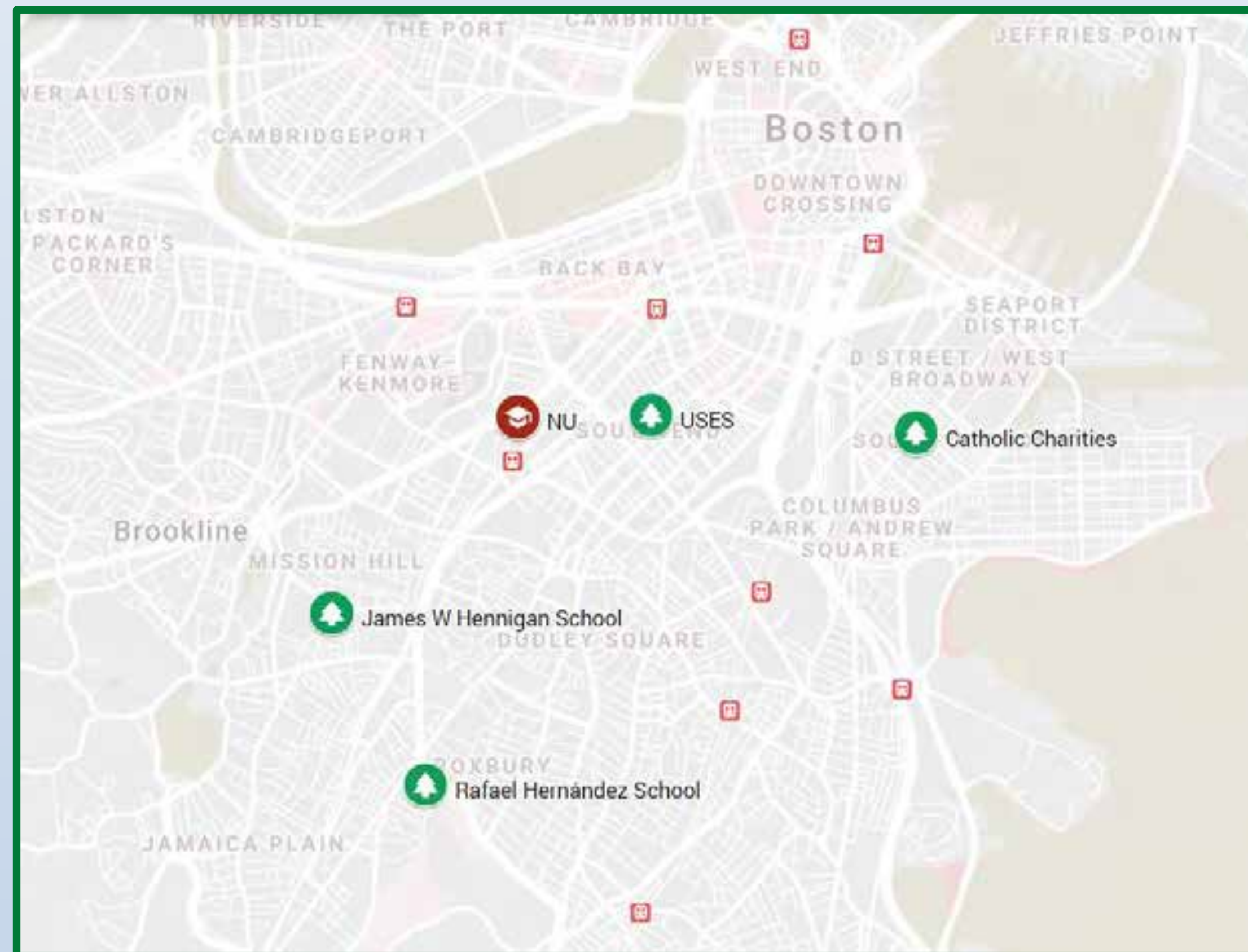
Solving Climate Change through Education

Our Mission

We are bringing age-appropriate, interdisciplinary climate change lessons to local, Boston-area youth.

We're accomplishing this in two ways:

- Conducting lessons and programming at after-school programs
- Developing and publishing an open-source curriculum library on our website, bostonecoscholars.org



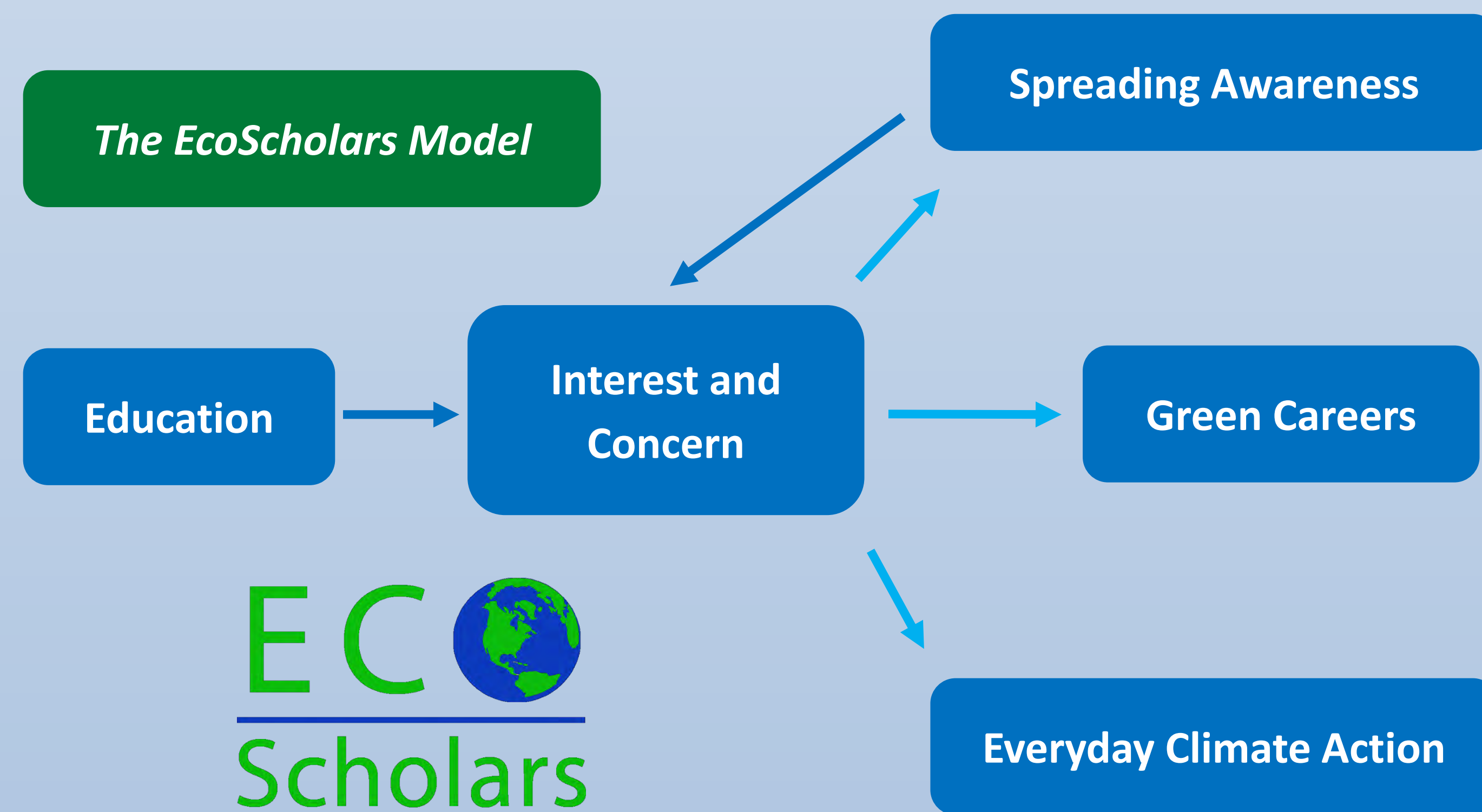
Partner Map

Our Partners

- United South End Settlements (South End)
- James W. Hennigan K-8 School (Jamaica Plain)
- Rafael Hernandez Bilingual School (Roxbury)
- Catholic Charities (South Boston)



Our students at St. Stephen's Youth Programs last spring



Sample Lesson

Lesson 3: How We Contribute to Climate Change

- **Activity: Footprint Calculator**
 - Depending on size of the group and number of teachers, divide up, or work as a class altogether
 - Complete the survey at <http://meetthegreens.pbskids.org/features/carbon-calculator.html>
 - Discuss the results
 - ❖ If we use X number of Earths, is that fair?
 - ❖ What does it mean that we are using that many earths?
 - ❖ We are using supplies (food, water, energy, clean air, etc)?
 - ❖ What happens when we run out?
- **Discussion: Human Impact on the Earth**
 - Discuss that humans have a major impact on the Earth (giving a few examples), trying to touch upon:
 - ❖ Pollution
 - ❖ Greenhouse gases (bad air vs good air)
 - ❖ Waste
 - Explain that our decisions can help or hurt the environment - try to emphasize that we all make choices everyday
- **Activity: Help or Hurt**
 - Draw a line on the board, at one end write "hurt" and "help"
 - Run through the kids' days, highlighting certain choices and asking kids where they might fall on the thermometer
 - ❖ For example, getting to school in the morning: walk, bike, car, train, bus, etc.?
 - If you have a lot of time, try to cover more topics, ie: briefly discuss renewable energy, etc.
- **Brainstorm: Ways We Can Help the Earth**
 - Discuss with the kids ways you can help the earth. Some potential ideas:
 - ❖ **Reduce, reuse, and recycle.** Cut down on what you throw away. Follow the three "R's" to conserve natural resources and landfill space.
 - ❖ **Volunteer.** Volunteer for cleanups in your community. You can get involved in protecting your watershed, too.
 - ❖ **Educate.** When you further your own education, you can help others understand the importance and value of our natural resources.

Lesson Topics

Here are some examples of lesson topics we've taught:

- How the Greenhouse Effect Works
- Climate Change's Effects on Boston Harbor
- Renewable Energy: Wind and Solar
- Your Carbon Footprint
- Green Degrees and Careers

Get Involved!

Contact bostonecoscholars@gmail.com to sign up for our newsletter and get updates about upcoming meetings!

You can also visit us at bostonecoscholars.org for more info on what we're doing!

Next Steps

- Continue programming with our current partners
- Develop lessons on further topics using innovative teaching methods
- Expand our volunteer team
- Host on-campus events with similarly-minded student organizations
- Build a network of EcoScholars chapters at colleges throughout Boston and beyond!