



PHOTO: USFWS/STEVE HILDEBRANT
ARTIC NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE

Sustaining your outdoor classroom

01. Build a team

02. Use and celebrate your space

03. Fundraising



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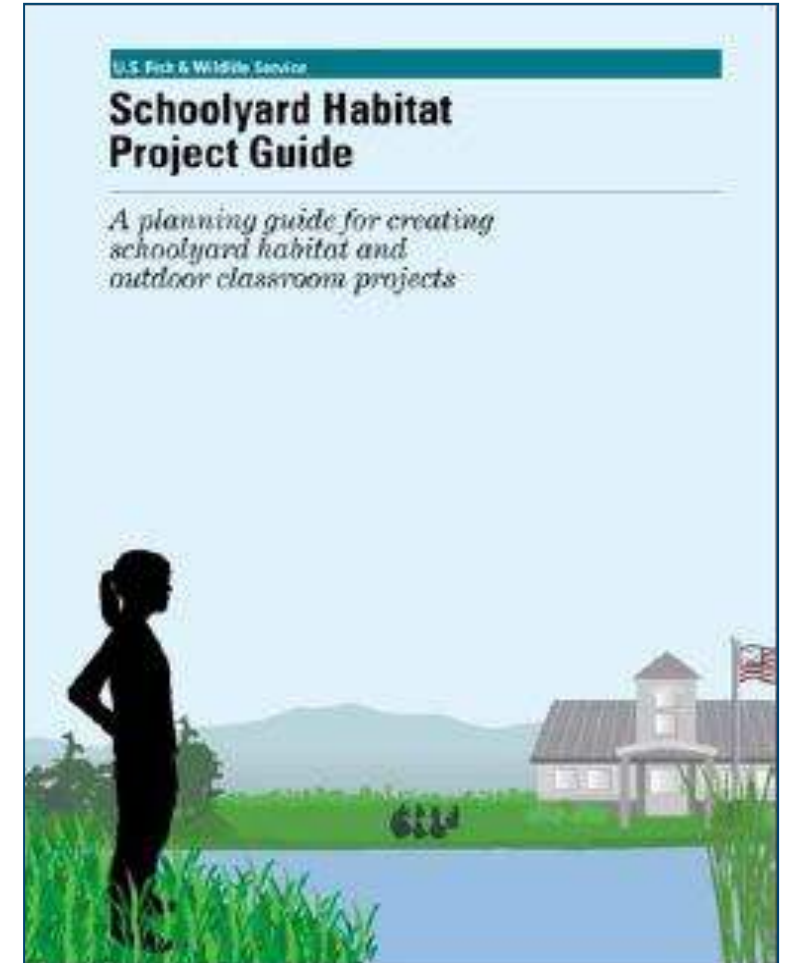
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Schoolyard Habitat Project Guide



A planning guide for creating schoolyard habitat and outdoor classroom projects



Schoolyard Habitats

- Ecologically sound
- Benefit wildlife and people
- Integrated into curriculum
- Designed to encourage long-term stewardship



1. Build a Team

Core Team	Support Team
Motivates and pushes project direction	Takes on individual tasks and assists in implementation of big events



One person cannot complete a long-term successful project on their own!



Schoolyard Habitat Project Guide

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U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

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Tips for Your Team

- Allow for varying levels of participation.
- Assign roles to help ensure that no one person is overburdened with all aspects of the project.
- Work within any existing formal committee structure of the school. Some very successful Schoolyard Habitat teams have been subcommittees of an overarching School Improvement Team or Parent Teacher Association.
- Identify achievable short-term goals. A simple, successful first project can create enthusiasm for future more complex projects.
- Have a flexible team roster so more people can join as they become interested.
- Designate a central location for your project files, so they can be located by current and future team members.



2. Use and celebrate your space



CREATE

49 Step 4: Design Project

- Understand Principles of Schoolyard Habitat Design
- Draw Your Project Plan
- Create Your Planting Map
- List Additional Materials for Design Implementation

67 Step 5: Decide Money Matters

- Develop a List of Needs and Resources
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77 Step 6: Install Project

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INCORPORATE

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99 Step 8: Use the Project

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- Provide Teacher Professional Development
- Monitor for Change

103 Step 9: Share Your Story

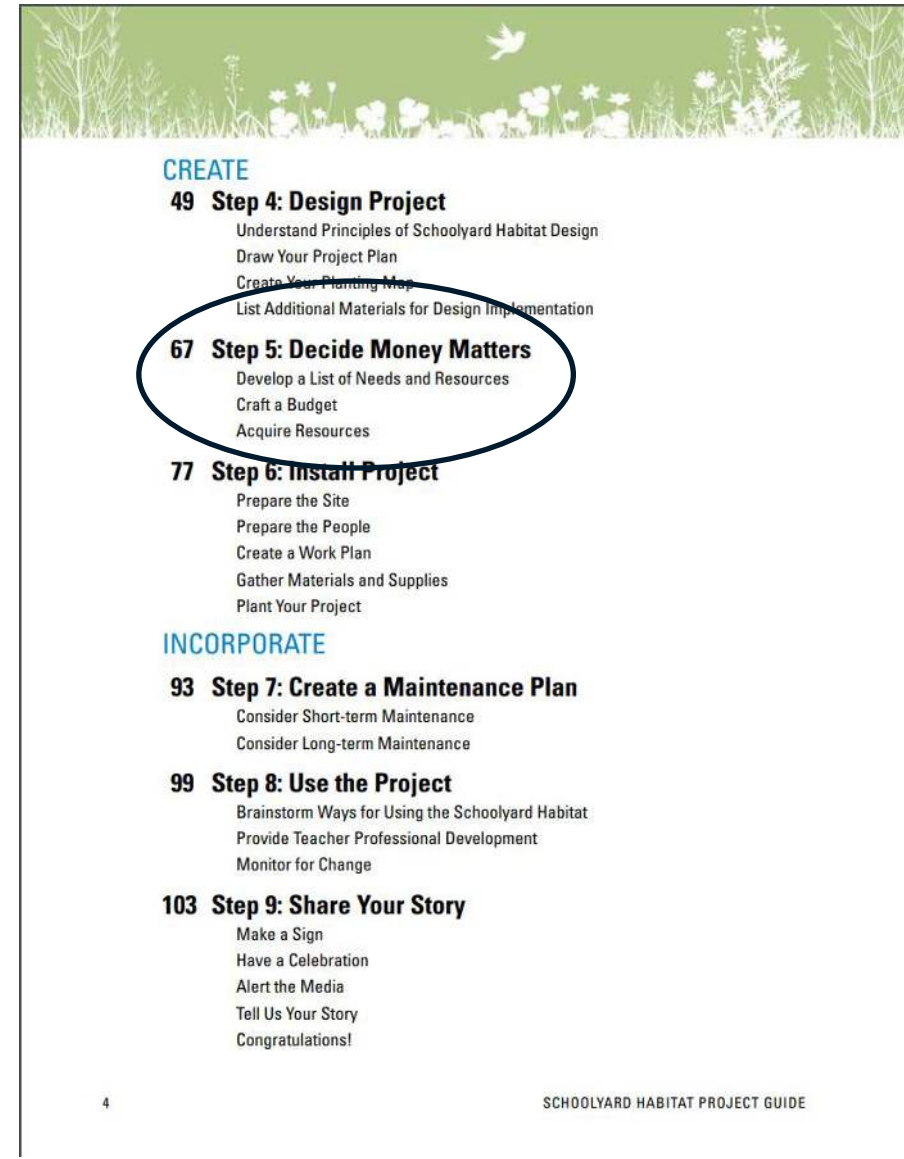
- Make a Sign
- Have a Celebration
- Alert the Media
- Tell Us Your Story
- Congratulations!

Unveiling Ceremony



3. Fundraising

- Grants
- RIEEA
- Get students involved
- Leverage community assets





DON'T FORGET!

The key to a sustainable project is community engagement and a school culture that values and prioritizes outdoor learning.

