

What is SNOCAT? A program developed by **Saving Nature Now** intended to help children form emotional and intellectual connections with natural resources by encouraging small, easy, personal actions that benefit biodiversity and the environment.

Who can participate? The program is designed to be used by children between the ages of 8 and 11 years old but is not limited to just that age range. Although it is entirely possible for individual children to participate, the environmental benefits are magnified if a group works through the program.



What sorts of groups? Elementary classrooms and Green Teams, homeschool classes, public library or nature center programs, state and national park Jr. Ranger program groups, 4-H groups, scout troops, or church groups are all encouraged to be part of the program.

What's my first step? Once a group leader (teacher, librarian, etc.) decides to participate, the next step is to choose a coupon book based on the desired theme (**Get Outside, 3 Rs Plus**, others to follow as the program develops) or grade level (**2nd through 5th grade**). Some areas have local sponsors who have donated necessary funds for booklets and pins. If your group does not have a sponsor, there are other ways to acquire program materials. Contact one of the **Saving Nature Now** representatives to explore these options.

How many booklets and pins do I need? Can the children work in pairs or small groups? We recommend one booklet per child since the overall intent of the program is to encourage a sense of self-worth and the notion that individual actions can make a difference. One pin per child as a recognition of some level of completion (see below) is recommended. When completing individual coupons, children may work individually, in pairs, or as a group.

I've got booklets and pins, what now? This is where the program's flexibility comes into play. Program leaders may tailor SNOCAT to their needs, but should follow a few steps:

- ✓ Decide on the desired level of completion - 75% to 100% completion of the coupons is a good goal. This may or may not include the "Next Step" or "Bonus" actions.
- ✓ Decide the reward for completing the desired level - the pins are designed as recognition/reward for completion although some groups may wish to use the pins to show participation instead. If that's the case, some further reward is recommended upon completion - some group activity like a pizza party or trip to a zoo or nature center when all participants reach the goal.

What's next? As each child finishes a coupon, initial and date it. A parent, guardian, or program leader may initial a completed coupon. Groups may want to post a completion chart with participants in the left column and coupon titles across the top row. Completed coupons can be designated with a check mark or star to show progress for the group. Multiple classes or groups may compete against each other for some reward by using completion percentages.

Anything else? Contact a Saving Nature Now representative at info@snocat.org with your questions, comments, and suggestions. Our web site is <http://snocat.org> and we are on Facebook. Thank you for participating in SNOCAT!