

**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](mailto: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!