

Students in Grades 4, 5 and 6 may join the 2018-19 L.I.F.E. Club

What Is It?: L.I.F.E. stands for "Little Individuals For the Environment". It is a student lead, student organized, student run club. L.I.F.E. Club started a few years ago when students learned what a carbon footprint was and they wanted to lower the school's footprint. The club's main focus remains environmental but it now includes community service projects as well.

What Kinds of Things Does L.I.F.E. Club Do?: L.I.F.E. Club raises their own funds by recycling the plastic bottles and clean paper at the school on a weekly basis. We also stock the staff soda machine and recoup funds from vending. With these funds L.I.F.E. Club has built the school garden and painted the murals near the bike racks. We have also held lemonade sales to donate funds to hurricane victims, Syrian refugees, and the Pacific Marine Mammal Center. Through our recently hosted Pet Film Festival, we supported I.C.A.R.E. Dog Rescue (a local organization that rescues dogs from being euthanized), with a monetary donation.

Plans for 2018-19: L.I.F.E. Club members have been brainstorming some ideas for the 2018-19 school year and here is what we have come up with so far...

- participate in California Coastal Cleanup Day (Saturday, September 15, 2018)
- design & paint another mural to promote environmental awareness (TBA)
- host school-wide election to select one endangered animal species to recognize and support during the school year – this includes L.I.F.E. Club researching and campaigning (September-October)
- organize and sponsor the 2019 B.C. Pet Film Festival (planned for January)
- awareness of Earth Day with an event or other (April 22)
- raise awareness of the environmental damage caused by using disposable plastic straws (all year)
- create a funky eco-garden using recycled materials (all year)
- create and maintain a L.I.F.E. Club blog (looking for parent volunteer(s) to help launch this)
- participate in a "fun" environmentally friendly half hour craft/game activity one lunch meeting per month (great for parent volunteers to organize & guide)
- organize a school-wide assembly with guest speaker to promote environmental awareness
- build birdhouses
- after school lemonade sales to sponsor relief efforts in our world (throughout the year)
- bake sale during Astronomy Night – parent volunteers needed (October)
- popcorn sales during Pet Film Festival (planned for January)
- support primary grade L.I.F.E. Club
- maintain the staff soda machine (throughout the year)

Who Can Join Upper Grade L.I.F.E. Club?: Any Bonita Canyon student in 4th through 6th grade with a passion to help the earth, animals, and people in need.

How Do I Join?: Just show up to our meetings. We meet once a week (day to be determined) during upper grade lunch where we brainstorm ideas and have fun activities. And it's free! We are mentored by our Science Teacher, Mr. Nelson. So come join us and help save the planet!

Parent Participation: Parent volunteers are encouraged to help us out but L.I.F.E. Club members make all the decisions and perform all the functions (with school approval). If you are interested in helping with our L.I.F.E. Club for any event, please contact Mr. Nelson at charlesnelson@iusd.org

