



Edison Challenge 2009

PROJECT SUMMARY

Eastshore Elementary School (Irvine)

The Eastshore team's lesson plan teaches students about decomposers that digest organic matter and release nutrients to be used again, such as earthworms. They also wrote a song about composting, entitled "Black Gold Irvine Tea".

For their community service program, the Eastshore team successfully built a composter from a 30-gallon trash can. They made compost and wrote an article on how to build a composter. The team developed a program at school where green waste generated from students' lunches (banana and orange peels, apple cores, salad, etc.) is gathered and composted. Team members met with the Irvine mayor in order to become part of making Irvine one of the greenest cities in the nation. The team's directions for building a composter is featured on the City of Irvine's Web site. As a result of the team's meeting with Dr. Gwen Gross, Irvine Unified School District Superintendent, the school district's green waste will go to the Tierra Verde Green Waste facility at the great park or be composted by the school district. The students are using the song they wrote to educate people on the value of green waste. They have also written an article on green waste recycling along with directions for their composter. The article will published in the Woodbridge Village Community Association's Newsletter as well as the Irvine World News. They hope to appear on the Ellen DeGeneres Show.

PHOTO CAPTION:

Pictured left to right in the photo are:



Pedro Pizarro, executive vice president of Power Operations, Southern California Edison (SCE); Eastshore School students John Tudhope, Julia Eliers, Rhodri John; television personality and keynote speaker Bill Nye, "The Science Guy"; Eastshore Middle School students Danielle Krikorian and Kenton Van Peursem; Vanessa Knutson, USC Wrigley School for Environmental Studies; Eastshore Elementary School teacher and team advisor, Bill Brooks, and Kelly Petrovich, student; and Lynn Whitley, USC Wrigley School for Environmental Studies.