



Edison Challenge 2009

PROJECT SUMMARY

Gabrielino High School (San Gabriel)

The Gabrielino team's lesson plan consisted of teaching a group of sixth, seventh, and eighth grade students at Jefferson Middle School about the basics of water and the water cycle; the importance, uses, and purification process of water; and the challenges faced in obtaining clean water in California and other parts of the world.

For their community service project, the students are recycling cans and bottles to purchase 1,000,000 LifeStraws -- portable water purifiers -- for people in developing countries. The team began recycling at their school, made presentations to encourage other schools to recycle, organized New Year's Day Rose Parade recycling, and collected recyclables at Gabrielino's Green Dream Festival.

The team's research proposal, entitled "Effective and Efficient Recycling," involved sorting, quantifying and weighing recycled cans and bottles, comparing the amount discarded to that recycled, and comparing CRV and price per pound for each type of bottle, in hopes of increasing the efficiency and cost-effectiveness of campuses' and other organizations' recycling programs.

PHOTO CAPTION:

Pictured left to right in the photo are:



Front row: Michael Winters, teacher and team advisor, Gabrielino High School, and students Daniela Martinez, Kathleen Tan, Alice Pan, Alice Thai; P Pedro Pizarro, executive vice president of Power Operations, Southern California Edison (SCE); and Lynn Whitley, USC Wrigley Institute for Environmental Studies.

Back row: Television personality and keynote speaker Bill Nye, "The Science Guy"; Vanessa Knutson, USC Wrigley Institute for Environmental Studies; April Lee, student, Gabrielino High School.