

How is Your Community Adapting for Electric Vehicles?



Re-Energy
Inquiry Based Activity
Grade Level 7-12

Introduction

Now that you know all about Electric Vehicles it's time to take that learning into action! Spread the word about Electric Vehicles and create a positive change in your community. The following is based on GreenLearning's Spiral Inquiry model.

Main Objective

Learners will heighten their understanding of electric vehicles in their community.

Learning Outcomes

By the end of this activity, learners will:

- Utilize GreenLearning's Spiral Inquiry Model to answer the question: **How is our community adapting for electric vehicles?**

Length of Activity: Dependant on the Educator

Step 1: Introduction to Spiral Inquiry

Step 2: Prepare and think about inquiry question

Step 3+4: Conduct research and interview

Step 5: Present findings

Materials Required

- Internet-enabled device
- Pen and paper
- Learner Inquiry Worksheet

Activity

Before you begin:

This activity is assuming that you have gone through the electric vehicle backgrounders (PowerPoint presentations) and done at least one lesson plan with your class. Learners should have a solid understanding of electric vehicles before attempting this lesson plan.

Step 1: Spark (A Student Investigation)

- Begin by getting familiar with GreenLearning’s Spiral Inquiry Model found here:

 <https://programs.greenlearning.ca/course/spiral-inquiry-model>

- Pose the question **“How is our community adapting for electric vehicles?”**
 - Allow learners to break out into think-pair-share groups to begin generating some ideas.
 - Ask the groups to share their ideas, and record down their responses in a bullet list at the front of the class on the board.
 - Each bullet can be discussed at large with the class by providing them with some teaser information on those points, so it really gets them thinking further.

Step 2: Hypothesize and Plan

- Have learners brainstorm people/businesses in their community that have adapted to the shift of electric vehicles.
 - Some examples might include a car dealership owner, gas station owner, homebuilder, municipal representatives, etc.
- Hand out the “How is Your Community Adapting for EV’s Worksheet”

Step 3: Explore and Research

- Have learners work in small groups and decide which of these groups in their community is of interest to them.
 - Learners will need to build and revise questions to ask individuals about why and how they have adapted to the shift of EV’s. Have learners research the names of the people in their community with that profession and interview them.
- Hand out the “How is Your Community Adapting for EV’s” Worksheet to the learners and allow them to complete Part 2. Be sure to remind learners to record their information and remember to keep track of their sources.

Step 4: Analyze and Check

- Have learners do the interview and make sure the learners know that if they would like to record the interview. They need to ask permission in advance.
- Hand out the “How is Your Community Adapting to EV’s” Worksheet to the learners and allow them to complete Part 3.

Step 5: Communicate

Now learners are ready to turn their knowledge into action! Have learners present what they have discovered in their exploration. Some ideas include:

- Making a PowerPoint presentation
- Creating an infomercial/commercial/podcast
- Making a Bulletin Board Presentation

Extension Idea

- After everyone has presented their findings take a look at a map of your community and have a discussion about how all the people in the community that are adapting for electric vehicles (reiterate the findings from the interviews) and how they are connected. Further discuss what other possible changes they might see in the future.

