

HGTV Special: Red Hot and Green

In this HGTV special, students will learn how to go green in their homes without sacrificing style! They will witness a stunning green makeover, including the living room, kitchen, bedroom and backyard. They will tour spectacular homes where the furniture and products are also environmentally friendly, and learn from the owners how they incorporated recycled materials and energy efficient strategies into their homes. Plus, they will get quick green tips from expert carpenter Carter Oosterhouse and designer Danny Seo on simple ways to incorporate beautiful green design elements into their homes.

Vocabulary

- inspiration
- organic
- revitalized
- encasement
- generation
- insecticides
- pesticides
- makeover
- aesthetic
- purify
- indigenous
- eco-friendly
- innovative
- biodegradable

Discussion Questions

- Ask students what they think it means for a home to “go green?”
- Why is it so important for our homes to be eco-friendly?
- Do students feel that their own homes are eco-friendly? If so, have them share examples. If not, what might they do to make their homes more eco-friendly?

Suggested Activities

What Color is Your Kitchen? (Science, Language Arts)

In the episode, students are introduced to several ideas for making the kitchen “green.” Have students list the ideas from the episode. Then have them go online to www.hgtv.com/redhot to see more ideas for turning the kitchen “green.” Challenge students to describe qualities of a green kitchen. Their list could include “energy efficient appliances,” “recycled materials,” and “triple pane windows.” Finally have students rate their own kitchens against this list. Whose kitchen is the most “green?” How could students affordably make their kitchens “greener?”

Green Room (Design, Math, Marketing, Technology)

In the episode, students learn that the Internet is a great place to shop for eco-friendly materials, appliances and furniture. Have students go online to a favorite search engine such as Google, Yahoo or Alta Vista. Then have them conduct a search to find eco-friendly products for the home. They may want to search “green furniture” or “eco-friendly appliances.” Give them time to search several sites to see what is available and at what cost. Finally, give students an imaginary budget of \$1,000. Tell them that they must do a makeover of one of the rooms in their home, using all eco-friendly materials and staying within a \$1,000 budget. Have them come up with a creative way to show their “purchases.” They can create a catalog of their purchases, make a poster or

prototype of their new room or design a site. During their presentation, they should be able to share each purchase, what makes it “green,” how much it cost and why they selected it.

Recycle It

In the episode, several items from the featured couple’s home were recycled or repurposed. This included fabrics, plates and artwork. Have students list all of the things that were recycled or repurposed in the episode. Which were students’ favorites and why? With their parents’ permission, have students select something from their own homes that they would like to recycle or repurpose. Have them design a plan for their project and collect the materials they will need. Have them take photos of the original item. Then have them recycle or repurpose their item into something new. Have each student present their original photograph and new item to the class. Finally, have students draw conclusions about the benefits of recycling or repurposing something rather than making a new purchase?

Extension

Have students share what they learned about “going green” with family members. Then have students work with their families to identify one thing that they could do in their home to make it greener. This could include something simple such as recycling a product, bringing in plants, or buying new towels. Or it could include something more complicated like changing appliances, flooring or window treatments or replacing grass with green materials. Have students share their goals with the class.