

Summary of the 2023 Sustainability Challenge: Every Drop Counts!

5 weeks: March 20th through April 21st

Theme: Water Conservation, partnered with the COP Water Services Department and ASU Sustainable Cities Network

	Topic	Participation (S)	Participation (L)
Week 1	Water and Fashion	189	10
Week 2	Household Water Use	206	21
Week 3	Green Spaces and Xeriscaping	290	13
Week 4	Colorado River	347	40
Week 5	Now what?	112	3

Participating Schools:

Small Schools – Bioscience High School, Phoenix Coding Academy, Franklin Police and Fire High School, Wilson College Prep

Large Schools – Trevor Browne High School, North High School, Maryvale High School, Central high School, Camelback High School, Cesar Chavez High School

Winners:

Award: \$5,000

- 1st place (S): Franklin \$1,500
- 1st Place (L): North \$1,500
- 2nd Place (S): Bioscience \$1,000
- 2nd Place (L): Maryvale \$1,000

What went well:

- Instagram being the main way students would communicate/submit projects and photos.
 - o Good way to keep everyone updated on who has submitted things and see standings
 - o My ability to share things with students other than the Sustainability Officers
 - o Quick extra credit/bonus points
- Having Student Council Advisors involved. They knew what was going to be going on before the challenge started, and I hardly ever got emails from them (except when it was a quick question)
- There seemed to be no drama – not any that I heard of anyway.
- Splitting the schools up into Large vs. Small school groups; it made scoring easier and more fair

What did not go well:

- Overall participation. In previous years the challenge was earlier in the year, before Spring Break, this year's was after. This year's challenge conflicted with Student Government Elections, Proms and Formals, and the ACTs; as well as students prepping for college, graduation, end of the year exams, etc.
- Might be related to ^^, but 10 schools said they would participate, only 6 did.

Going Forward:

- Orientation – will set the tone for the whole year, I think, and with Officers understanding their role from the beginning, it might influence them to do more. More engagement with other

students, taking advantage of opportunities that they are presented with (like going to Earth Day), speaking out more at meetings (if possible)

- Move the challenge to before Spring Break if all possible next year
- Instagram is effective in engaging with students, and is a good way for them to submit photos or show that they participated in activities
 - o Following the schools' Instagram accounts or their student government accounts and tagging them in the posts/updates – they can share a repost so more students can see
 - o This is also how I knew that there was a lot more going on this time of year for students
- Communicating with and keeping the advisors updated throughout the entirety of the challenge, as well as making them a part of the program orientation.

Results:

Averages for small school participation in the challenge:

- Bioscience - 16.37%
- Coding - 0.19%
- Franklin - 49.24%
- Wilson - 9.95%

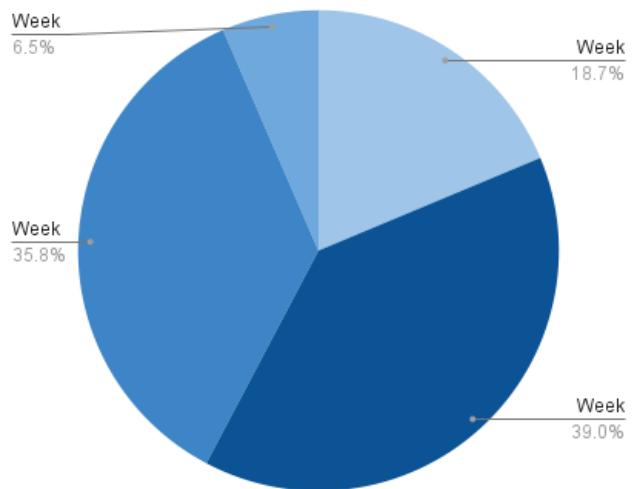
There wasn't enough data from the large schools to make an average, they are all 0%.

Week 5 Survey Results:

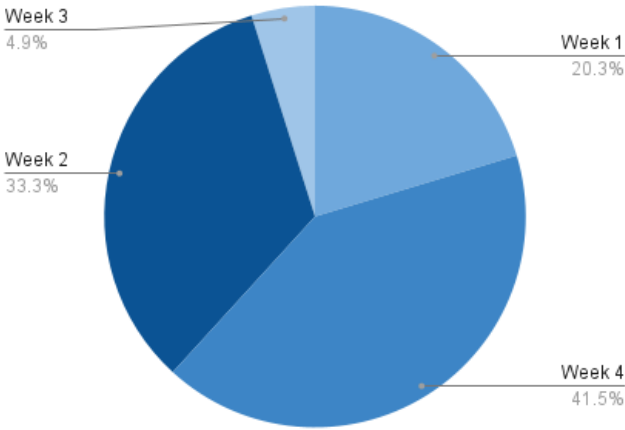
The survey was to see what students learned and for some feedback.

- Because of the length of the challenge, there was a lot of "nothing" or "can't remember" for some of the weeks, Week 1 having the most.
 - o Week 3 was a little more technical (possibly?) – talking about landscaping and green infrastructure
- Week 4 was successful, the activity was asking students to be creative, emphasizing the arts in STEAM. This might've encouraged more students to actively participate.

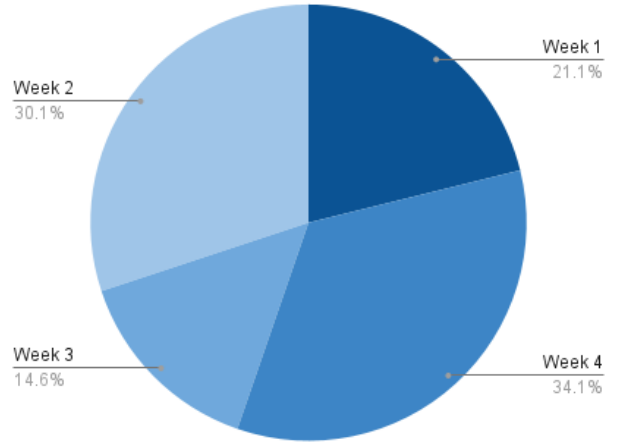
Out of all the water use conservation topics, which one do you think is the most



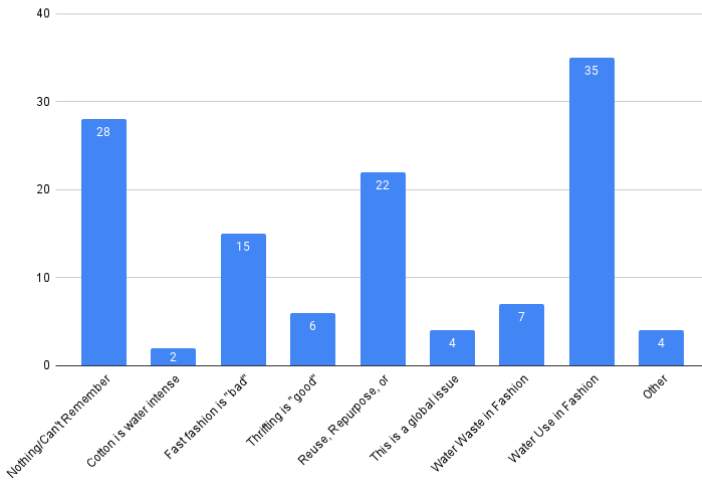
During what week did you learn the most about/find most interesting?



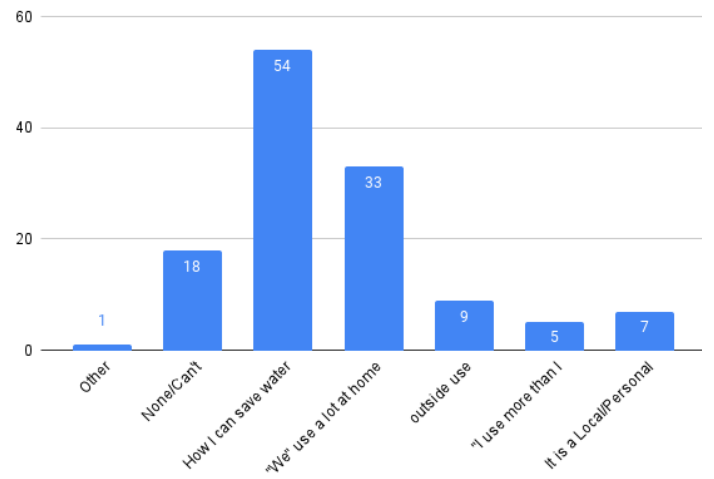
Which week's activity do you like the most?



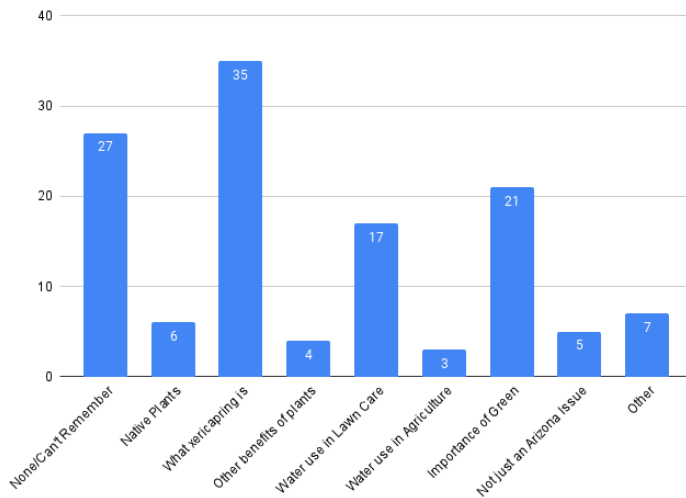
What did you learn from Week 1: Water Conservation is in Style? (Water and the Fashion Industry)



What did you learn in Week 2: Save Every Drop? (Household Water Use)



What did you learn during Week 3: Desert Minded? (Xeriscaping and Green Spaces)



What did you learn during Week 4: Respect the River? (Colorado River)

