



**The Stone Soup Leadership Institute's
Sustainable Education Toolkit
A Note for Principals**

At the Stone Soup Leadership Institute, we know that principals are striving to provide the best education for their students that they can, with limited resources. Imagine what the 10 million new jobs in the blue/green economy could mean for your students. These jobs represent the opportunity for them to have meaningful careers, while helping to rebuild our planet. As a principal you have the extraordinary opportunity to help your students, your community and our world, by taking the first steps toward that world.

At a time when we need more STEM education to help students prepare for the transition to this sustainable economy, schools are struggling to hire and keep STEM teachers. With the COVID pandemic, many students must learn online with even more limited opportunities to develop their critical thinking skills, explore project-based learning, or even get the basic scientific understanding they need to be part of this transition. This is a challenge, but it is also an opportunity to engage in creative, productive “disruptive thinking” that can help us all move toward “building back better.” While we all know that STEM education is increasingly important for student success in the emerging green economy, implementing STEM curricula in schools can be a challenge. Schools are facing not only instructional challenges when it comes to implementing successful, multidisciplinary STEM curricula; they are also facing administrative challenges: budgetary constraints and a lack of appropriate teacher training.

At the Institute, we consider our partnership with schools to be crucial to our mission. We are partnering with school administrators across the country to facilitate the implementation of sustainability and STEM curricula in their schools. We are committed to providing dynamic resources for educators to increase their students' appreciation for STEM, with a special focus on climate education and sustainability solutions.

***The transition to a sustainable economy is the most challenging issue of the 21st century.
Innovation is the key to building a more sustainable world.***

About the Stone Soup Leadership Institute

For over 20 years, the Institute has been a leader in developing dynamic educational tools, trainings, and resources that expand young people's appreciation for STEM, climate education and sustainable solutions. We pride ourselves on creating educational programs that bring sustainability issues to life and STEM activities into the classroom, to help prepare multicultural youth for a wide range of STEM-related career pathways. We have designed an engaging, comprehensive, and solutions-oriented program that prepares students for the environmental, economic, and social issues we face today.

Our team of seasoned educators created this Sustainable Education Toolkit as a Companion Curriculum for the new book, *Stone Soup for a Sustainable World: Life-Changing Stories of Young Heroes*. It is ideally suited for high school educators and students to help teachers meet the requirements of state standards. And since we strive for diversity, our curriculum has a multicultural approach to help educators ensure their students' academic success and become leaders of a more just, equitable, and sustainable world. The curriculum adheres to the Next Generation Science Standards, a set of standards focused on helping students develop a coherent and scientifically-based view of the world and convert their ideas into tangible, real-life projects. These standards focus on Physical and Life Sciences, Earth and Space Science, and Engineering; they have been adopted by 20 states in U.S.