



Pittsburgh Zoo & PPG Aquarium
One Wild Place, Pittsburgh, PA 15206
www.pittsburghzoo.org

Grand Prize Winners
receive a trip to see
Polar Bears in the wild!

Project Polar Bear

CONTEST

Bright Young Minds Outsmart CO₂

Are you between the ages of 14–17? Project Polar Bear is a way for small groups of young people to collectively make a big difference! This bi-national contest challenges teams of students to develop community projects that **reduce the carbon dioxide** load in the atmosphere.

Over the past three years, contest participants have reduced CO₂ by nearly 200 million pounds. What's more, their efforts have had a ripple effect, inspiring **long-term change** in communities through ongoing projects.

PBI teams up with Zoos, Aquariums, Science Centers, and other like-minded partners on the contest—anywhere in the U.S. and Canada with teens 14–17 years old and an adult advisor who want to take part in the challenge.



When is the contest held?

The contest begins in the fall of each year. Teams work on their project for three to four months, reporting on their progress through blogs on our website. Judging takes place in early spring and we announce the highest ranked team in April (although every team that reduces CO₂ is a winner in our book!). Prizes for the 2011-2012 contest include a trip to Churchill, Canada, polar bear capital of the world, for the highest ranked team and their mentor, and a trip to San Diego, with special tours at the San Diego Zoo and SeaWorld San Diego, for the two honorable mention teams and their mentor.

Registration for the 2011-2012 contest is October 1 - November 15, 2011.

How can I be a part of Project Polar Bear? *(continued on next page)*



How can I be a part of Project Polar Bear?

Working in teams of two or three teens (ages 14 to 17), along with an adult advisor, Project Polar Bear Participants can create changes that are good for the climate and good for polar bears!

Step 1: Get a team together of 2 or 3 teens (ages 14 to 17).

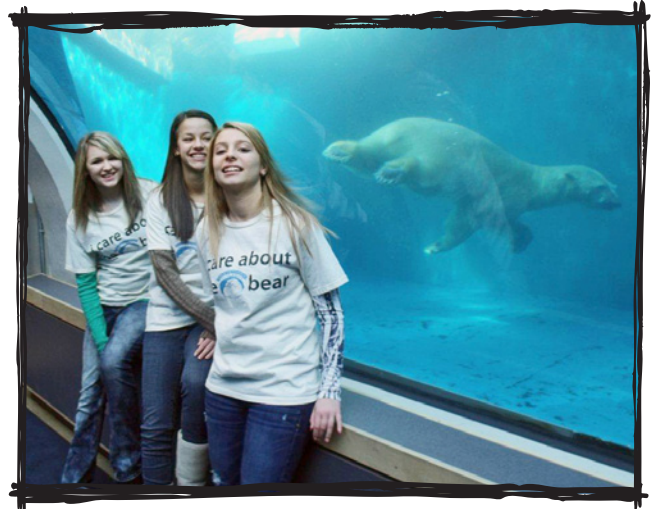
Step 2: Find an adult advisor who will be able to guide you but not do your project.

Step 3: Set a meeting schedule for your group.

Step 4: Decide what your project is going to be. Choose from:

- Power Down
- Buy Recycled
- Do it Better, Make it Better
- Increase the Green to Suck up the CO₂

Read more about the categories online at PolarBearsInternational.org for ideas and inspiration.



The Energy Angels from South Allegheny High School were the grand prize winners in the 2010-2011 school year!

Step 5: Register your team and outline your project using the online form at PolarBearsInternational.org

Step 6: Measure your Impact - Figure out a way up front of how you are going to measure the impact of your project. Will it be by counting the number of trees planted and calculating the amount of CO₂ they absorb? Will it be by keeping track of the amount of CO₂ saved on "Ride your Bike to School Days" that you organize? You decide what makes sense for your project.

Step 7: Meet with your group regularly to keep your project moving along.

Step 8: Update your Project Polar Bear Web information when you register your team. Take before, during and after data and pictures; make a video; record audio interviews with people, any way you can to capture the essence of what you are doing. Keep track of your progress and record some real numbers (remember Step 6?)

Step 9: Complete the Project Polar Bear Success Report on the PolarBearsInternational.org website and submit it by the deadline of December 31, 2011 at 11:59 p.m. Pacific Time.

For more information or any questions, please contact Margie Marks at mmarks@pittsburghzoo.org or 412-365-2520.