

Managing Your Energy Budget (Teacher Notes)

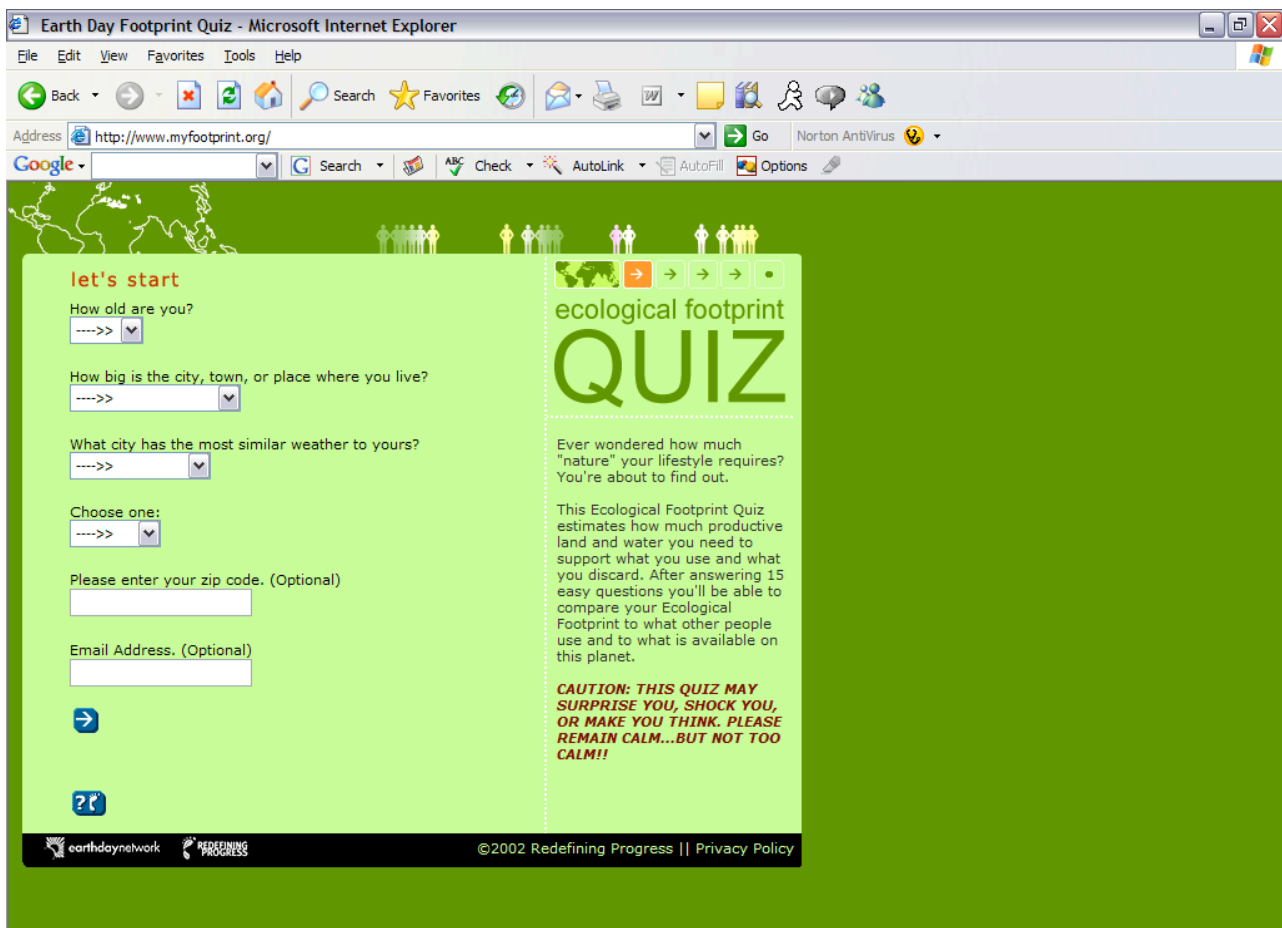
(An Ecological Footprint Assessment)

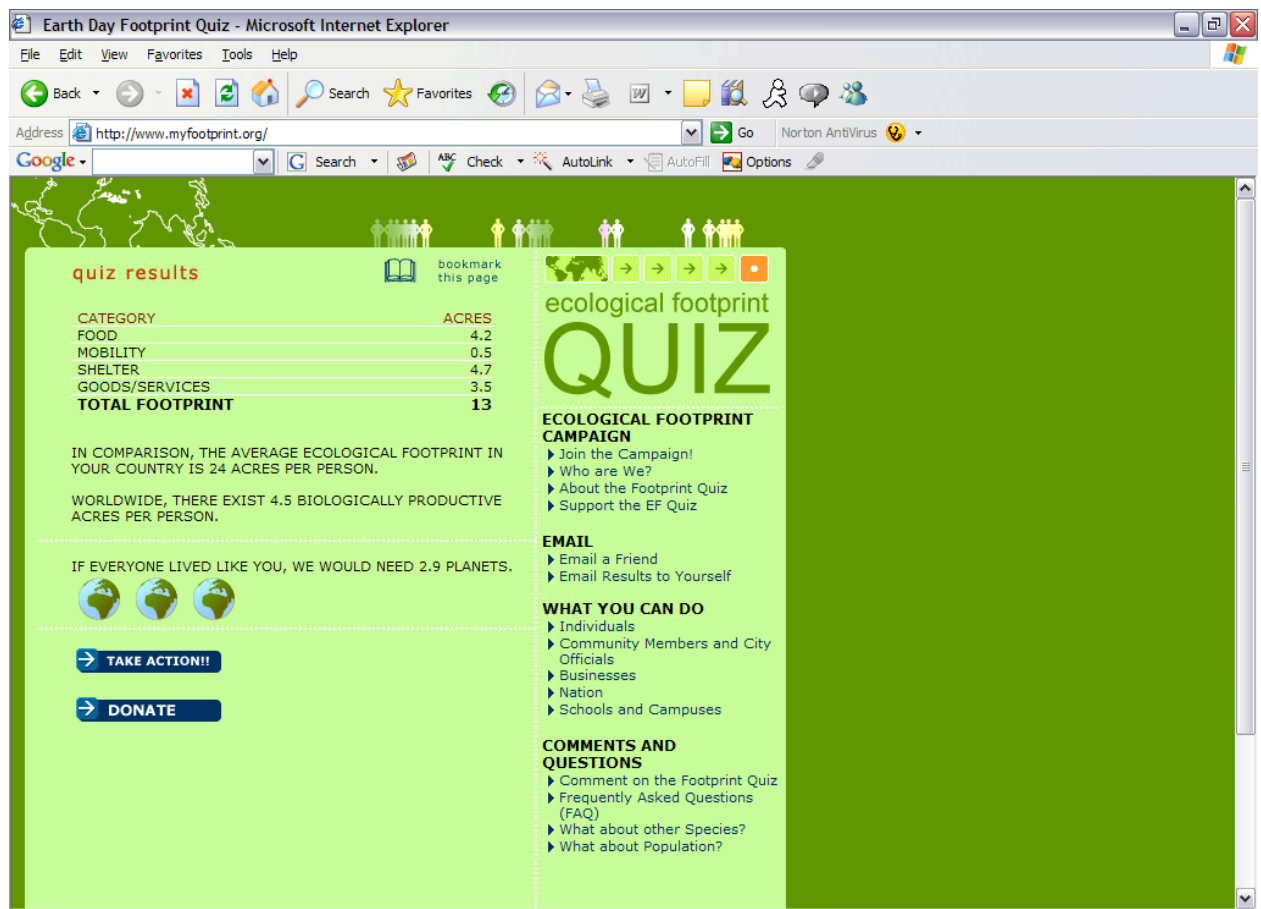
Part 1 Notes

- **Gross National Income.** GNI was previously known as Gross National Product. Gross National Income comprises the total value of goods and services produced within a country (i.e. its Gross Domestic Product), together with its income received from other countries (notably interest and dividends), less similar payments made to other countries. The values represented in the pie graphs are adjusted for purchasing power parity (PPP), an estimate of the exchange rate required to equalize the purchasing power of different currencies, given the prices of goods and services in the countries concerned.

Part 2 Notes

- When students access the ecological footprint calculator, they will first need to select their country and language. Students will then move onto the page shown below. You may decide it best to advise that they skip the optional sections requesting zip code and email address. The entire quiz is sixteen (16) questions long and asks several questions about community size, square footage of their home, and transportation patterns. This section may be better used as a homework assignment if students are not familiar with consumption patterns of their family.





The results page is a resource for students to brainstorm ideas about how they may make changes to their consumption patterns to reduce their footprint. There are also links for additional information about the quiz and ideas for further action on the right hand side.

- **Examples of Student Action Ideas.** A wide array of examples of ways that students can address the inequitable distributions of resources include: reduce, reuse and recycle resources; buy energy-efficient and sustainably designed products; volunteer at nonprofit organizations work towards social justice; and talk about this issue with friends and family.

Additional References

- **Penn State University's Center for Sustainability**
<http://www.engr.psu.edu/cfs/>
- **Facing the Future**
<http://www.facingthefuture.org/#>
- **Redefining Progress Homepage**
<http://www.redefiningprogress.org/footprint/>
- **Global Footprint Network**
http://www.footprintnetwork.org/gfn_sub.php?content=footprint_overview
- **School Ecological Footprint Calculator from EPA-Victoria (excel file and PDF)**
<http://www.epa.vic.gov.au/Eco-footprint/Schools/default.asp>

Notes on Materials

- **Video Resources.** Depending upon the availability of computers for your instruction, the Center for Sustainability video resources may be viewed by students in small groups, directly from the internet instead of in a large group setting.