



## **Oklahoma 2011 Arbor Week Poster Contest**

Curriculum Activity:

### *Map a SunWise Schoolyard*

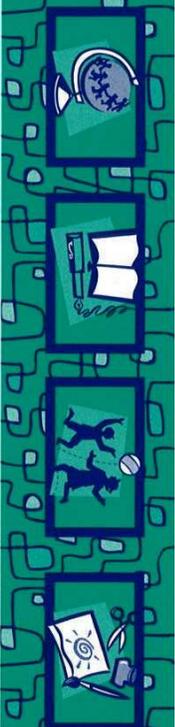
- 1) The following EPA SunWise activity is titled 'Map a SunWise Town'. Using both your imagination and your current schoolyard arrangement, redesign your schoolyard according to sun wise guidelines.
  - \* Where do students spend time outside? Is there enough shade?
  - \* Do students have access to sunscreen? Are they encouraged to wear hats?
  - \* What kinds of trees, and what size trees, are available to provide shade?
  - \* Are there ways the students could improve the sunwise conditions of the schoolyard?
  - \* Do students understand the connection between sun exposure and skin cancer?
- 2) Based on your students' understanding of the activity, their recreated schoolyard and SunWise guidelines, have them create a poster with this year's contest theme,

### **Shady Schools are Cool!**

- 3) Conduct a school or organizational poster contest and submit your winning poster either in person or by mail to:

Arbor Week Poster Contest  
OK Forestry Services  
2800 N Lincoln Boulevard  
OKC OK 73105

**All poster entries must be RECEIVED by 5:00 pm February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2011**



## Map a SunWise Town

### Estimated Time

40–50 minutes

### Supplies

Colored pens and pencils  
Ruler  
Paper or poster board

### Learning Objective

This activity allows students to evaluate sun protection on a larger scale. It will help students visualize the connection between their environment and sun-safe behavior. Ask students to think about where they spend time outdoors and if those places are SunWise. Assess student comprehension by having the class write a paragraph comparing areas in their neighborhoods to the same areas in the towns they've mapped. How are they different? How could their towns be made more sun safe?

### Physical Education Variation:

Have students walk around and map their school to determine areas where additional shade would be beneficial in terms of trees and shade structures (requires paper, pen, and surface to write on). This activity can also be coordinated with other content areas (e.g., science and social studies for environmental impact and improvements

### Directions

Tell the class that they are civil engineers whose job is to design new SunWise towns. Their towns will need to have everything other towns need—a fire station, shopping mall, post office, gas station, school, and parks, for example.

The students will draw a map of their town. They should provide shade to help residents avoid overexposure to the sun's harmful UV rays. They will mark all the locations where residents can help themselves be SunWise. The students will then create legends for their maps.

### Questions and Answers

- 1 Where are the most SunWise areas in your town?  
*Answers will vary.*
- 2 What are the best places to be a SunWise shopper?  
*Answers will vary.*

to the community). It can also be structured as a student service learning project where students could coordinate a fundraising activity to purchase trees and/or erect a shade structure. Groups can also split up, with each member responsible for identifying at least two areas that would benefit from shade.