

**Title**

# Carbon Footprint

**Activity Overview**

**Description:**

Understand what creates a carbon footprint.

**Topic Area(s):**

Ecology, environmental engineering

**Grade Level:**

P-2

**Duration:**

30 minutes

**Learning Outcomes:**

- Learn about what makes carbon footprints bigger and introduce ways to make our carbon footprints smaller.

**Hook**

How can you reduce your carbon footprint?

**Background Information**

The definition of a “carbon footprint” is the amount of carbon dioxide or greenhouse gases released into our atmosphere as a result of daily living activities. This activity is a good brainstorm for young children to learn about the impact their daily living has on their environment and ways that they can reduce their very own carbon footprint.

**Materials**

- Paper (1 piece per camper ~20)
- Paint - 4 different colors

**Safety Considerations**

Don't ingest paint!

## Procedure

1. Paint a footprint onto a large piece of paper.
2. This is your carbon footprint. Write words around the footprint about what's contributing to your carbon footprint (driving to school, heating your house, etc.)
3. Now how could you make your carbon footprint smaller?

## Wrap-Up/Debrief

- Discuss possible ways to save energy and the importance of keeping your carbon footprint small. Remember to think globally and act locally!