how can schools teach about sustainability?

Schools are typically valued for their efficiency in providing a place for classroom instruction. However, the emerging emphasis on sustainable and evidence-based design of learning environments provides opportunities for students to learn through sustainable design RESEARCH during the design process and beyond, MULTISENSORY experience in the building, CURRICULUM that engages the building as a source of knowledge and exploration, and OUTREACH to the students and wider community through signage and events. [Images adapted from Thrall’s, “Gardens for Sustainable Design, Habitation, and Wellbeing,” Carnegie Mellon, 2010]

PRELIMINARY RESEARCH QUESTIONS

do sustainably-designed schools:
- increase student ecological literacy?
- increase student performance?
- impact their surrounding community?