



LifeSmarts

Learn it. Live it.

SmartStart

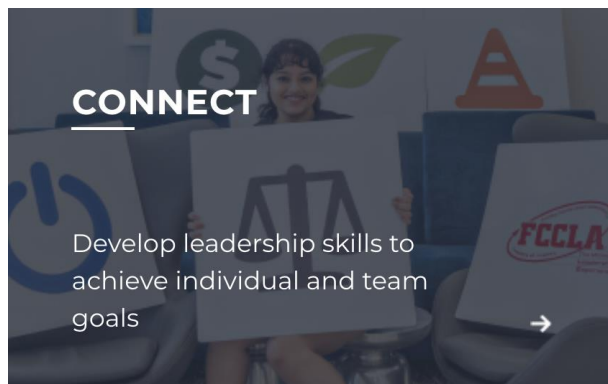
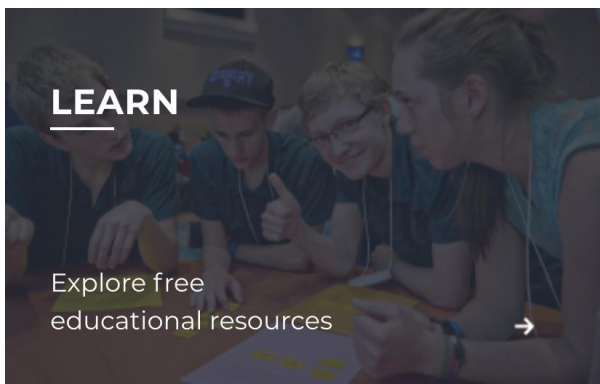


Environment Month

A recent global study found that young people suffer from "profound psychological distress" due to climate change and government inaction on the crisis. In fact, 45 percent of the 10,000 young people surveyed across ten countries shared that anxiety and distress over climate crisis affected their daily lives. Three-quarters of the respondents, who ranged in age from 16-25, felt that their environmental future was frightening and that the realities of climate change, alongside government failures to act to protect them and the planet, [were affecting their long-term mental health](#).

LifeSmarts teaches teens about important environmental issues, including ways they can protect their health as well as their environment, and also encourages them to speak out about these

issues. Through LifeSmarts, they participate in service projects that result in changes in their communities.



Resources

This month our focus at LifeSmarts is on the Environment, and we are excited to highlight these educational resources:

- The "[Protect the Planet](#)" [LifeSmarts U lesson](#), reviews simple steps an individual can take to protect the environment and how these actions have a broad impact when practiced by many people. Students will watch a ConsumerMan video, complete an activity about protecting the planet and going green, and test their knowledge with vocabulary and a drag and drop quiz.
- Our [LifeSmarts Question-of-the-Day Calendars](#) are great study tools for teams. These can be used for quick competitions, reviewing content, initiating discussions, and more.
- The [LifeSmarts Content Vocabulary of the Week](#) can be used in many ways – class bell-ringers, ice breakers, with [LifeSmarts in a Box games](#) and more. Students can test their knowledge on the [Weekly Quiz](#) and also on our [Flippity and Quizlet links](#).

LifeSmarts FBLA Spring Challenge open January 31 – February 25

FBLA teams may soon compete in the LifeSmarts FBLA Spring Challenge to earn one of the final 13 spots to advance to the live, virtual competitions in May. Teams of two students compete online at LifeSmarts.org, taking two TeamSmarts quizzes together and each completing an individual quiz. [Learn more.](#)

New partner and BPA Financial Challenge

Welcome to our new LifeSmarts partner organization, Business Professionals of America! This month, BPA teams can participate in the brand new BPA Financial Challenge from January 1 – 31. The highest scoring BPA team will receive a \$100 cash prize. To participate, [coaches should follow the instructions here](#). Good luck to all our new BPA coaches, students and teams!

We need new Team Advisory Board members!

We need more students (and adults!) to serve as members of the LifeSmarts Team Advisory Board. The Team Advisory Board is a select group of students and adults working together, sharing ideas, and helping LifeSmarts connect in new ways with youth groups, schools, and other audiences. Team members will be invited to provide input for Nationals 2022 planning and beyond. Questions? [Email Chery!](#) Interested? [Sign-up deadline is January 15, 2022!](#)



COMPETE

Win recognition, prizes, and the opportunity to advance →

December TeamSmarts winners

Congrats to our December Technology & Workforce Preparation TeamSmarts **Challenge winners! Each winning team receives a \$100 cash prize.**

Varsity: Kaiser LifeSmarts, Henry J. Kaiser High School, Honolulu, HI

Junior Varsity: Floyd County JV Team, Floyd County 4-H, Georgia 4-H, GA

FBLA: JMHS FBLA 2, John Marshall High School / FBLA, Glendale, WV

FCCLA: Macon Tigers, Macon High School / Macon Career Center, Macon, MO

4-H: All Yall, WIT Home Educators, Virginia 4-H, VA

Skills USA: Skills USA East Health Occ., East High School, Laramie, WY

January Environment TeamSmarts

The [January TeamSmarts](#) quiz focusing on environment is open through January 31. These monthly quizzes show up as a link under your team captain's "competitions" tab and are great practice tools. Teams are encouraged to work together to take this 100-question quiz. Top teams earn cash prizes!

State Championship deadlines

Congratulations to our first 2022 State LifeSmarts Champion team from Nebraska: the Neligh-Oakdale Sr. Warriors from Neligh-Oakdale High School, Neligh.

Many LifeSmarts State Championships have deadlines and closing dates this month. Be sure



COMMUNICATE

Use service-learning projects to share consumer knowledge in schools, clubs, and communities →

Sarah Weinberg LifeSmarts Memorial Scholarship due March 14

Coaches may nominate a stand-out graduating senior for the [Sarah Weinberg LifeSmarts Memorial Scholarship](#). This scholarship will be awarded to a LifeSmarts participant who demonstrates a commitment, like Sarah did, to volunteer service work. Scholarship applications are due March 14. One \$500 scholarship will be awarded. [Nominate a student here.](#)

'Be Safe, Buy Real' Digital Poster Contest

Participate in the [NEW LifeSmarts "Be Safe, Buy Real" Anti-Counterfeiting Digital Poster Contest](#).

The contest is open to all LifeSmarts students in grades 6 -12. Students use information from UL's [anti-counterfeiting campaign, Be Safe, Buy Real](#) to learn about counterfeit goods. Then, students develop and design their own message to share what they have learned in a digital poster format. Prizes will be awarded to the top middle and high school students.

Entries are due **January 31, 2022**. For additional information, [read the full rules](#) and [review the rubric](#). *Teams attending the National LifeSmarts Championship have a separate opportunity to earn travel stipends for their winning posters.*

National LifeSmarts Championship Wild Card Bid first deadline is January 31

Get your applications in! This year, all Varsity teams are invited [to apply for a Wild Card bid](#) to the National LifeSmarts Championship. At least five teams will be selected to compete in the

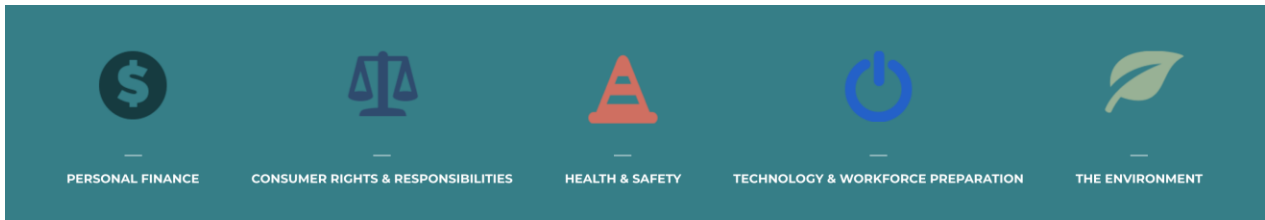
to [check out the details for your state here](#).
[Contact us](#) if you have any questions.

Deadlines for online state qualifying quizzes:

January 12 – North Dakota
January 14 – West Virginia
January 18 – Minnesota
January 20 – Alabama, Alaska, Arizona,
Arkansas, Connecticut, Iowa, Maine, Maryland,
Massachusetts, Michigan, Mississippi, Montana,
Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York,
Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Rhode Island, South
Dakota, Tennessee, Utah, Vermont, & Wyoming
January 28 – New Mexico
January 29 – California
January 31 – Florida & Kansas
February 1 – Georgia, Indiana & Wisconsin
February 2 – Virginia
February 4 – Colorado, Pennsylvania
& Washington

National LifeSmarts Championship with one spot each reserved for FCCLA, FBLA, and 4-H teams. Teams will work together to complete the Wild Card TeamSmarts quiz (now available) and design an educational PowerPoint or Prezi on a suggested LifeSmarts topic. The first deadline is January 31 and the second deadline is March 1. Successful teams receive a travel stipend upon completion of an assigned community service project. [Detailed application information is available here.](#)

Watch for more dates in the February SmartStart!



Help LifeSmarts reach even more students this year! [Donate today.](#)

