

Sustainable Back-to-School

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It's that time of year again. As you prepare to send the kids back to school, you may be facing the challenge of affording new clothes and school supplies on a budget. Don't fret; there are some great ways to get what your student needs in an environmentally friendly and low cost way.

First, hit the second hand stores. Thrift stores and consignment shops are a great place to find gently used clothing, bags, three ring binders, and more. Shopping at and donating to these stores is a great way to keep items out of the waste stream, conserve resources, and keep money in your community. Many second hand shops are run by charitable organizations that provide jobs and other services to the community.

If you're looking for a bargain, chances are, other parents are too. A great way to get good deals is to organize a back to school swap. Invite friends with children entering a variety of grades and set it up like a multi-family yard sale.

Finally, don't forget to hit the yard sales. Check the classified section of your local newspaper or search online. Being sustainable is all about conserving resources. Buying used is a wonderful way to conserve natural resources and save your cash.

