**Ecological Footprint WebQuest:**

Directions: Follow the links described below and work through the questions and actions described. Please make sure you explain each answer in such a way that a 10 year old could understand…**do NOT copy directly from the website**. You will have to synthesize what you read! Use **complete sentences** for full credit.

**What is an ecological footprint?**

Go to <http://www.footprintnetwork.org/gfn_sub.php?content=footprint_overview> and read the **overview of an ecological footprint.**  (No, you will not be reading this entire webpage!)

1. What is an ecological footprint?
2. How much larger is our ecological footprint than the rate the planet can regenerate?

Go to <http://www.footprintnetwork.org/en/index.php/GFN/page/earth_overshoot_day/> and read about Earth Overshoot day.

1. Earth Overshoot day was Sept 23, 2008. What does that mean?
2. Why is Earth Overshoot day earlier this year than last year?

**Ecological Impact Quiz:**

Go to <http://www.earthday.net/footprint/index.html> and enter the quiz. DO NOT ENTER YOUR EMAIL!

1. Take the quiz and compare your average ecological footprint with the average footprint of 24 acres in the United States. Make sure your teacher sees the final “page” of the quiz. Get your teacher to initial here: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Go to <http://www.rprogress.org/ecological_footprint/footprint_FAQs.htm> and answer these questions.

1. What is the measurement unit of the ecological footprint?
2. What assumptions are made in order to calculate an ecological footprint?

**Green Diet:**

Go to <http://www.cspinet.org/EatingGreen/index.html> and click on the “**Score Your Diet**” link at the top toolbar.

1. Select the average number of **servings** you have for each type of food per week. When you are done, also read about the things that affect your health, environment and animal welfare score (on the left side of that same page). Get your teacher to initial when you are done. \_\_\_\_

On the top pane, locate and click on “**Take a Tour of the Conventional Food Supply**” in the upper right hand side of the page.

1. Click on the “Feed Grain” [the lower part of the field] and read the facts. Cattle would naturally consume primarily grass diets. What types of problems are associated with feeding cattle grains instead of grass?
2. Click on the “Irrigation” [the moving water sprayer] and read about irrigating feed-grain crops. Feed-grain crops are those crops grown solely to be fed to animals that we will later butcher for food. How much water is used every year in the United States to irrigate feed-grain crops?
3. Click on the “Animal Feed” [the pig building] and read about how we feed much of the livestock in the United States. Why are more antibiotics fed to healthy livestock than are used to treat sick people?
4. Select at least three more steps in the conventional food supply chain. Write down at least five new pieces of information you learned—complete sentences please.