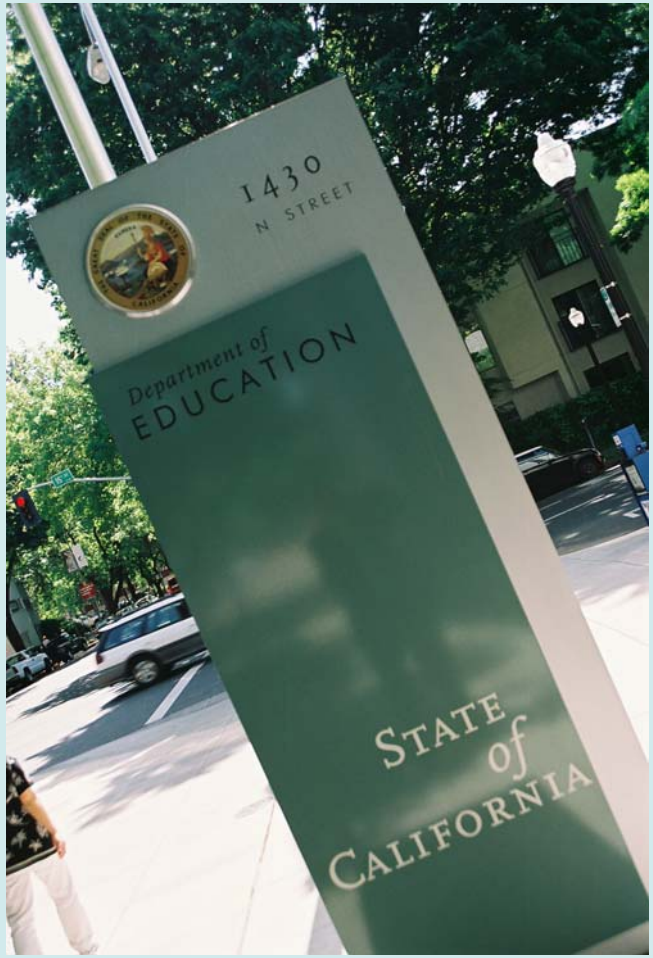
Growing California Green

Photos by the

Green Team

CA Department of General Services

In early May 2006, approximately 20 preschool children enrolled in the child care program at the Education Building, located at 15th and N Streets in Sacramento, took part in “Growing California Green” activities.



The Education Building has earned the U.S. Green Building Council's LEED-NC (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Gold certification for new construction.

This summer, the building is expected to become the first state-owned office building to earn LEED-EB certification for an existing building.

Theo—also know as Thriftasaurus Save-a-wattus—led the children on a tour of the facility—one of California's most environment-friendly, "green" office buildings. Here, they learn about diverting waste from landfills.

Theo showed the kids some of the many ways the facility—in which many of their parents work—is designed to save energy, water and other natural resources.

During their building tour, the preschoolers carried signs conveying conservation tips.

Theo turns off
the faucet to
save water.

The green building tour and conservation tips are part of the state's commitment to reducing energy use at state-owned facilities while encouraging others to do the same at home and at work.

A building engineer shows the children the energy efficient, under floor ventilation system.

To encourage the use of shade trees, the children watched as a tree was planted at the
building's pocket park.

The children received ladybugs from one of Theo’s helpers. They introduced the bugs into the garden as part of the building’s sustainable pest management system.

Flex Your Power!

After the tour, the kids put what they learned into practice by turning off lights that aren’t needed.

Once back at the child care center, Theo hosted a coloring book party. Each book contained several tips on how to save energy, water and other resources at home.

Thriftasaurus
save·a·wattus
Theo turns off light
are not nee

Sterilite

Circle Time with Theo’s friend Ms. Ladybug.

“Who knows what recycling is”? asked Madame Butterfly.

After the tour, the children
can-dunked aluminum into a recycling bin.

It’s easy being green!

Theo left a present for the children: a “Grow California Green” growth chart.

Generation Green