

## About Earth Day

Earth Day was founded in 1970 by John McDonnell (from the United States). It used to be celebrated on the first day of Spring (the March Equinox) and still is by many people. As a worldwide celebration, April 22 is the more recognized date.

Earth day is intended for all of us to recognize how we influence our limited resources from our planet. There are often activities, campaigns and events scheduled on this day to promote awareness of Earth issues. You may choose to participate in a local event or start your own! Some ideas that you could put in motion are:

- Pick up trash on the playground
- Help Mom and Dad with recycling garbage at home
- Plant a tree

**On April 22, 1970 the first Earth Day was held. People from all over our country promised to help solve the problems and help save our planet. Since then Earth Day has become a world-wide event. People from all over the world work together to solve the environmental problems facing our world.**

## EARTH

is one of the planets in our solar system.

It is third in distance from the sun and the fifth largest in diameter. Earth moves around the sun in a circular type path.

It is the only planet known to support life, although some of the other planets have atmospheres and contain water

## EARTH

consists of five parts:

The first, the atmosphere is gaseous, the second, the hydrosphere is liquid) the third, fourth, and fifth, the lithosphere, mantle, and core is largely solid.

Water in the form of the oceans, covers approximately 70% of the earth's surface, and land the remaining 30%.

## EARTH

is in danger, with so many people using so much , we could use up our natural resources in a very short time.

Not only do all living things depend on our natural resources, but each living thing in the **food chain** depends on the other to survive. That's why it is important that we take care of our planet and everything in it! We call that "ecology".

*DID YOU KNOW?*

EARTH is not a perfect sphere but is slightly pear shaped.

ECOLOGY: The word "ecology" comes from the Greek word meaning "house"

- circumference: 24,901.5 miles
  - diameter: Nearly 8,000 miles
  - surface area: 196,935,000 sq miles
  - percent of earth's ocean approximately 70% \*
  - percent of earth's land: approximately 30%
  - highest point: Mt Everest 29, 028 above sea level
  - lowest point: Dead Sea 1,302 below sea level
- \* of the 70 percent of water; 97 percent is salt water, 3 percent is fresh water*

**Here is an example of how long it takes garbage to break down:**

- plastics take 500 years
- aluminum cans take 500 years
- organic materials take 6 months
- cotton, rags, and paper take 6 months.

**Other Interesting FACTS:**

- Earth is referred to as the BLUE PLANET. WHY? Because from space, the oceans combined with our atmosphere make our planet look blue.
- Earth is estimated to be 3-5 Billion Years old.
- Earth is estimated to weigh 6,585,600,000,000,000,000 tons.
- The area of the earth is almost 200 million square miles.
- Earth travels through space at 66,700 miles per hour.
- Earth's oceans are an average of 2 Miles deep.
- Earth's rotation on its axis makes a day at 24 hours...
- Earth's orbit around the sun makes a year at nearly 365 and 1/2 days
- Earth is tipped at 23 and 1/2 degrees in orbit. That axis is what causes our seasons.
- Antarctica is the coldest place on earth. The continent is almost entirely covered in ICE !
- Only 11 percent of the earth's surface is used to grow food.
- Breeze carries about 100 Million tons of sand particles around the earth yearly.
- That means if you live in America-you could have Sand that came from the Gobi desert in China.
- Earth is the third planet from the sun.  
Did you realize that it was one of the smallest planets in OUR solar system?  
**If you want to know more fast facts about earth see [Earth Fast Facts Page](#)**
- **A quick dose of solar history!**
- *The solar system*
- There are nine planets that travel around the sun. In order of distance they are Pluto, Neptune, Uranus, Saturn, Jupiter, Mars, Earth, Venus, and Mercury. Together with the sun they make up our solar system.

The planets are in motion and travel around the sun in oval shaped paths called orbits. Each planet travels it's own orbit. Each planet also rotates on an axis, which means it spins around its centerline.

Our planet earth is one of the smaller planets, but it is pretty large at 7,926 miles in diameter. It takes almost exactly 24 hours to rotate and that's how we get our day.

Did you know that the sun is not a planet but a star? Just like the stars you see at night. Though it is **more than** 100 times larger than earth it is just average size for a star.

### *The Moon*

The moon is another body in our solar system. It is covered with deep pockets called craters. One side of the moon is always facing earth. However, the earth turns on it's own orbit. When earth facing the moon, and away from the sun we have night.

The moon has no light of it's own. It only reflects the light from the sun. The light of the moon is called a moons phase. The moon has many phases such as the full moon and new moon. It takes 27 days for it to travel through all of them. That is how we calculate our months!

When we see the moon at night, people in countries opposite each other on the globe, such as the United States and Japan, have daytime. When they have night, we have day. Around we go.

No matter where we all live on earth we share the same sun and moon.

**Earth Pattern**



## Melted Crayon Earth

### You need:

- [Earth Pattern](#)
- Blue and Green Crayon Shavings
- Wax Paper
- Adult with Warm Iron

### Instructions:

Place a piece of wax paper over Earth pattern. Sprinkle crayon shavings (sparingly!) on wax paper following the design on the download. Place another piece of wax paper on top of shavings and a blank sheet of paper or a cloth over that. Gently press down with a warm iron. Crayon will melt quickly. Cut wax paper into a circle around the design. Tape or hang in window.

## Coffee Filter Earth

### You need:

- [Earth Pattern](#)
- Coffee Filters
- Blue & Green Liquid Food Coloring

### Instructions:

Scatter approximately 4 drops of green food coloring and 5 drops of blue food coloring in the bottom of a coffee filter using the Earth pattern as a guide. Color should spread out to fill the entire bottom. Let dry. Cut out the bottom. Tape or hang in window.

## Sun Prints

Just an hour in the sun at noon will fade construction paper to leave behind decorative "prints".

### You need:

- A Sunny Day
- Construction Paper  
(Darker Colors will Work the Best)
- Objects from Nature or  
Objects from Around the House  
(Flatter items Work Best)

### Instructions:

Lay construction paper outside in the sun. Arrange items on the paper so their silhouettes will look nice. Wait about an hour and remove the items. You will see the paper has faded around the objects.

## Recycled Calendar Envelopes

Turn outdated calendars into beautiful envelopes. It's easy!

### You Need:

- Large outdated calendar with scenes printed on letter sized paper
- [Envelope Template](#)
- Glue Stick

### Instructions:

Cut apart the calendar at binding. Print [Envelope Template](#) on each page with a printed scene. Cut on the solid lines. Fold on the dotted lines so picture is on the outside. Glue the two side flaps to the bottom flap at overlap. Glue the top flap after you have inserted your letter.

## Hair Accessories Holder

Here's a simple hair accessories holder that's pretty enough to keep on your dresser.

### You need:

- Clean, Dry Ice Cube Tray
- Ribbon
- Lace
- [Molded Pearls](#)
- [Ribbon Roses](#)
- [Low Temp Glue Gun](#)

### Instructions:

Use a glue gun to attach lace and ribbon all around the ice cube tray. Add a strand of molded pearls. Glue ribbon roses between the compartments.

## Flowered Place Mats

*Use a wilting bouquet or gather flowers and leaves (with permission, of course!) to make beautiful place mats. Colors eventually fade to browns for a truly elegant look.*



### You need:

- Clear Contact Paper
- Flowers and Leaves
- Scissors

### Instructions:

For each place mat, cut 2 pieces of contact paper approximately 12" x 18". Peel the backing off one piece and lay it sticky side up on the table. Remove blossoms and leaves from their stems and arrange them on the sticky side of the contact paper. Press

everything flat with your fingers. Some flowers will work better if you remove the petals and use them individually.

Peel the backing off the 2nd piece of contact paper. Place it sticky side down over your arrangement. Do not worry about lining up edges exactly. You will probably get some wrinkles. Just press everything down as flat as possible and your place mat will look beautiful. Trim around all edges with scissors.

**TIP** *Have someone help with the contact paper. You can each hold 2 corners and it will be easier to apply.*

**IDEA** *Make decorative edges by cutting scallops or applying colored tape.*

**IDEA** *Cut into several different shapes pieces and make a mobile to hang in front of a window.*

## No-Sew Bandana Tote Bag

No sewing! Just cut and knot. All you'll need is scissors and two bandanas.

### You Need:

- Two [22" Bandanas](#)
- Fabric Scissors

### Instructions:

Our bandanas are printed with a blank 1" border. Cut this border off in one piece setting aside the scraps for making a handle. Lay bandanas out, wrong sides together, lining up edges as best as possible. Using fabric shears, cut a slit every 3/4" cutting up to the most inner printed square on the bandana. You will be cutting out the corners and discarding these small squares of fabric. Beginning at one of the corners, take one of the fringes from the top and one from the bottom and tie them together in a double knot. Tie one on each corner. Continue tying all around except for the top. This will be left open.

To make the handle, cut each long scrap into two equal pieces. Discard one piece and braid the other three together knotting at each end. Knot and end to each side of the bag. Iron the top fringes down on each side.

## Seashell Picture Frame

Use sea shells and sand gathered during your vacation to frame your favorite vacation photo.

### You need:

- [Lucite Frame](#)
- Sand
- [Seashells](#)
- [Tacky Glue](#) or [Ultimate Craft Glue](#)

### Instructions:

Spread glue all around the edge of a Lucite frame. Don't worry about making it even. Sprinkle sand all around the edge to cover the glue. Shake off extra. Glue seashells along the bottom.

## School Photo Frames

### You Need:

- School Photo
- Wooden Yard Stick
- Cardboard
- Pencil, Crayon, Eraser, Pencil Sharpener or Other School Supplies
- Tacky Glue
- Matte Knife
- [Cardboard Easel](#)

### Instructions:

Most yardsticks are 1" wide. 1/2 inch has measurements, the other 1/2" has advertisements. We asked Dad to cut ours in half lengthwise to cut off the advertisements. He used a matte knife.

Our photo had a lot of empty space on both sides so we trimmed it to 4-1/2" wide. Most school class photos are 7"x5". If your photo is 7"x5", follow the measurements provided. Otherwise adjust measurements.

Cut a piece of cardboard 8"x6". Glue photo in the middle. Cut your ruler on the 8" line, 13" line, 21" line and 26" line. Discard the last 10" of the yardstick. Glue yardstick pieces around photo. Arrange school supplies and glue around frame. Add an easel.

## No-Sew Bandana Pillow

No sewing! Just cut and tie together two bandanas to make a cute pillow for your room.

### You Need:

- Two [22" Bandanas](#)
- 12" [Pillow Form](#)
- Fabric Scissors

**Instructions:** Lay out two bandanas, wrong sides together on your work surface. Use a fabric scissors to cut slits 3" deep all around the bandana every 3/4". You will be cutting out the corners and discarding these small squares of fabric. Lay the pillow form between the two bandanas lining up the cut slits. Beginning at one of the corners, take one of the fringes from the top and one from the bottom and tie them together in a double knot. Tie one on each corner to center the pillow form. Continue tying all around, working out from the corners

## Friendship Quilt

A great way to begin or finish summer camp or any other gathering.

### You need:

- Wallpaper Samples or other paper
- Markers
- Poster Board
- Glue
- [Quilt Squares](#)

### Instructions:

Cut twelve 3"x 3" squares for each child in your group. You can use wall paper samples or any other kind of paper. If the paper you choose runs through your printer you can use our [Quilt Squares](#) to make cutting easier.

Have each child autograph their 12 squares then swap them with 12 other children in the group.

Glue the twelve square to paste board.

### Variations:

- Make a pen pal quilt. Include addresses so children can correspond after camp.

- For Vacation Bible School have children look up and write down inspirational bible verses.
- Instruct children to write their hobbies as well as their names to get to know each other better.
- For Preschoolers, use 6 squares each have have them paint or draw on each square.