Study Guide Earth Day Every Day

Please copy and give to teachers before assembly.

The Magic of Whopperfield

"Caring for the earth is an everyday job. Whose job is it? It's the job of four people named Everybody, Somebody, Anybody, and Nobody. Everybody was asked to do the job of making Earth Day Every Day. Everybody was sure Somebody would do it. Anybody could have done it, but Nobody did it. Somebody got angry about that, because it was Everybody's job. Everybody thought Anybody could do it, but Nobody realized that Everybody wouldn't do it. It ended up that Everybody blamed Somebody when Nobody did what Anybody could have done."

Here are a few things we can all do to help make Earth Day Every Day. Can you think of more?

Native American Indian Legend

"Take only what you need so there will be plenty for your children's children."

*Conserve Water- Wash your car at home, not at the car wash. Water your yard less, or not at all. Take a quick shower, not a bath. Turn off water while brushing teeth. Don't run water to get a cold drink, use ice or put a pitcher of water in the refrigerator. Fix leaky faucets. Put a brick in your toilet, or adjust the float to use less water.

*Conserve Energy- Drive a small car that gets good gas mileage, carpool, use public transportation, ride your bike, or walk. Turn off lights, T.V., etc. when leaving a room. Set heat lower in winter, set A.C. higher in summer, weather strip doors and windows. Use energy efficient light bulbs, and translucent lampshades. Don't open refrigerator too often, or put warm food in refrigerator. Vacuum dust from refrigerator condenser coils twice a year. Clean lint filter every time dryer is used. Don't dry half loads.

*Conserve Natural Resources- Reuse. Reduce. Recycle. Teachers (grades 3 to 12), send \$1.00 for postage and get a great Science Teaching Kit with lots of experiments and energy saving tips from: Charles Edison Fund, 101 S. Harrison St., East Orange, N. J. 07018.

"Live simply so that others may simply live."

Grave Robber Barnaby T. Scrapps

"Use it up, wear it out, make it do, or do without!"

***Reuse-** Clothes, rechargeable batteries, shopping bags, leftover food, a lunchbox instead of paper bags, scratch paper. Donate old toys to charity, or have a trading party. Give this Earth Day Every Day sheet to a friend when you're done with it.

***Reduce-** Less is more. Buy products with less packaging. Shop carefully so fresh food doesn't spoil. Eat at a restaurant instead of getting packaged carry-out food. Write and draw on both sides of paper.

***Recycle-** Paper (it fills almost 1/2 of landfills), aluminum, tin, glass, plastic, etc. Compost yard and food waste. Buy recycled products. We just sort our garbage unless we "close the loop" by using recycled products.

"Think twice before you spend money you don't have, on things you don't need, in order to impress people you don't like."

Mr. Codgers Neighborhood

"The solution to pollution is reduce'n."

***"Not in anybody's backyard."** Reduce long lasting litter. Paper can last 5 years, aluminum cans 500 years, glass bottles 1,000 years, and plastic bottles indefinitely.

***"Not in my backyard."** Reduce pesticide use. Spray plant pests with 3 tablespoons of soap per 1 gallon of water. Introduce ladybugs and other predatory insects. Plant marigolds, yarrow, rue, and other pest repellant plants. Pick weeds, don't use weed killers.

***"Not in my house."** Reduce use of toxic products. Mix 1/4 cup baking soda, 1/2 cup vinegar, 1 cup ammonia, and 1 gallon water for a multi-purpose cleaner. Use 1/2 cup bleach instead of toilet bowl cleaner. Caution, never mix bleach and ammonia. Use baking soda and salt to clean oven. Use a plunger or plumbers snake instead of chemical drain cleaners. Wear clothes that don't need dry cleaning. Use water-based paint. Don't use spray paint. Recycle paint solvent after cleaning brushes. Let dirty paint solvent sit in a covered can for 2 weeks, then carefully pour clean thinner off top.

"We did not inherit the earth from our fathers, we are borrowing it from our children."

The Phantom of the Opera

"Respect the beast along with the beauty."

*Let them be, wild and free. Don't kill snakes, spiders, or other animals you may not like. Wild animals don't make good pets. Keep pets away from baby animals. Most "lost" baby animals aren't really lost, let them be. Put hawk silhouettes in picture windows to keep birds from flying into them. *Litter kills! Candy and gum can choke small animals. Birds often get tangled in fish line. Animals can suffocate trying to get food crumbs from plastic bags.

*Feeding animals- Mix cracked corn with birdseed, it's better for squirrels. Feed ducks and geese corn instead of bread.

*Improve wildlife habitat- Landscape your yard naturally with ground cover, wildflowers, and bushes instead of mowed grass. Volunteer to help restore local natural areas. Support wetland preservation efforts, 1/2 of all wildlife need wetlands to survive. Support local, state, and national parks. Support National Wildlife Federation,

Audubon, Nature Conservancy, and other similar groups.

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has."



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