



Earth Day Every Day!

When we think of Earth Day, our thoughts tend to lead to reducing, reusing, and recycling some of the products we use every day. That is an important part of taking care of the earth we get to live on.



Reducing what we use can happen in many forms. Part of it may be when we are making purchases. Look at the packaging. Does it have multiple layers of plastic or cardboard? Does it need all of those layers? Buying things in bulk may lead to less packaging.

Reusing items has become just as important in reducing the amount of waste humans produce daily. Instead of buying a plastic bottle of water, consider using



a reusable container for your favorite thirst quencher.

Recycling is something to consider when we are throwing things away. Can it be recycled? Cleveland's recycling efforts grow better each year. Locations around the city accept glass, aluminum cans, plastic containers, cardboard, paper, and



plastic bags. The hours are flexible and there's no sorting. Starting a recycling bin at home could be as easy as designating a garbage can or bin for strictly recyclables. Then empty it as needed at a local drop-off site.

In addition, special dates are set each year for collecting computer equipment, hazardous items such as paint, and motor oil.

Many classes and tutorials are offered around Cleveland to help people learn about taking care of their environment. Visit ClevelandMetroparks.com or Earthday.org for opportunities.

Celebrating Earth Day can be as simple as getting outside for a hike and enjoying a local park, spending some time planning a garden space, or exploring your neighborhood.

Events around Cuyahoga County:

[Household Hazardous Waste Disposal Program](#)
City Service Departments

April 1-30, 2015
[Computer recycling events](#)
City service departments

May 2, 2015
[Reduce, Reuse, Recycle Patch Event](#)
CanalWay Center

May 5-15, 2015
[Elect to Recycle: Campaign sign recycling](#)
Garfield Heights

[Compost Seminar & Bin Sale](#)
5/5—Strongsville
5/13—Shaker Heights

[Habitat for Humanity ReStore Tool Drive](#)
5/2—Shaker Heights
5/9—Brecksville
5/16—Strongsville

Stories and Guides for Earth Day Exploration

Here are some books to help explore Earth Day in the classroom.

[Big Earth, Little Me](#)
by Thom Wiley

[Biscuit's Earth Day Celebration](#)

by Alyssa Satin Capucilli

[The Green Mother Goose: Saving the World One Rhyme at a Time](#) by David Davis

[Michael Recycle](#)
by Ellie Bethel

[We Planted a Tree](#)
by Diane Muldrow

[The Lorax](#) by Dr. Seuss

[Why Should I Recycle?](#)
by Jen Green

[Earth Day Every Day](#) by Lisa Bullard

[The Curious Garden](#)
by Peter Brown

[Gabby & Grandma Go Green](#)
by Monica Wellington

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Earth Day Every Day continued...

Recycled Projects abound when it comes to Earthy Day! Here are some ideas for reusing objects you may have around your home:



Art can be made from a variety of items. Grab some supplies and be creative!

Start your garden plants in recycled cartons!

Have children plant flowers and plants and then watch them grow. Recycle a milk or juice carton and make it into beautiful planter for planting seeds or growing plants.



Sun-made recycled crayons

Gather your materials. You will need some broken crayons, aluminum foil, cookie cutters, a paper plate and a very hot sunny spot.

1. Start by peeling and breaking your crayons into small pieces. I left some chunky bits because it was well over 100 and figured it would be fine, if the day was cooler I'd used shavings to melt faster.
2. Cover the plate in aluminum foil
3. Place the plate with the cookie cutters in a sunny spot. Add the broken crayons. Wait- it could take 1-3 hours to melt, depending on how hot it is.
4. Let cool inside, then pop out of the cookie cutters. Color on scrap paper for a truly eco friendly activity!



Activities for Further Learning and Fun

E-A-R-T-H

(to the tune of "B-I-N-G-O")

There is a planet we call home
And "Earth" is its name, oh.

E-A-R-T-H

E-A-R-T-H

E-A-R-T-H

And "Earth is its name, oh.

We must all work to care for her,
To keep her safe and clean, oh

C-L-E-A-N

C-L-E-A-N

C-L-E-A-N

This planet we call home, EARTH!

The More That We Recycle

(Tune: Did You Ever See a Lassie Go This Way and That?)

Oh, the more that we recycle, recycle, recycle,

Oh, the more that we recycle,

The happier we'll be.

Cause your earth is my earth

And my earth is your earth

So the more that we recycle

The happier we'll be.

Earth Day Snack Ideas

Earth Day Cookies

Grab your favorite Sugar Cookie recipe and divide in half. Add food coloring and work into dough to get desired color. Make a combination ball of dough colors. Press slightly and bake according to recipe.



Dirt Cups

Chocolate pudding and crushed Oreos make for a fun-layered dessert cup. Adding a few gummy worms never hurts either.

Earth Rice Crispy Balls

Use the rice crispy treat recipe on the box, divide the melted marshmallow into 2 bowls and add a few drops of blue to one and green to the other. Mix. Add half the rice crispies to one bowl and half to the other. Scoop some of each onto wax paper and form balls to look like the earth. Enjoy!

