

# A Day to Celebrate Earth



Max Planck Institute

Each year, Earth Day is celebrated in April. On Earth Day, millions of people will think of ways to stop pollution. They will talk about **recycling**<sup>1</sup> and planting trees. People will look for ways to save energy and water.

## Lend Earth a Helping Hand!

People have been celebrating Earth Day since 1970. Earth Day was started by a man named Gaylord Nelson. Nelson was a United

States senator from Wisconsin. He was worried about the damage being done to the planet.

To celebrate Earth Day, people get together once a year to think about ways to protect Earth. But many people think that every day should be Earth Day. They say people should always work to stop **pollution**<sup>2</sup> and clean up the land and water.

Here are a few ways that you can help make every day Earth Day!

## Don't Be a Litterbug!

Don't **litter**<sup>3</sup>! Be a good example for other kids. If you see litter, pick it up and put it in trash cans or recycling bins.

## Recycle!

Cans, bottles, and newspapers can be **recycled**. That means these objects are put through a special process so they can be used again.

Start a can recycling program at your school. Use the money you earn from returning the cans to buy new playground equipment or to have an Earth Day party.

**1 recycling:** processing items (such as glass, cans or paper) in order to allow the materials to be reused

**2 pollution:** condition made impure or spoiled with waste

**3 litter:** to scatter about in disorder; to cover with a messy collection of trash

## Save a Tree, Plant a Tree!

Paper is made from trees. You can save a tree by not wasting paper. Use both sides.

Celebrate National Arbor Day by planting a tree. This holiday encourages people to plant and care for trees.

## Don't Waste Water!

You can easily **conserve**, or save, water. Turn the faucet off while brushing your teeth and washing your face.

## Save Energy!

Save electricity by turning off the lights when you leave a room. Do not leave a radio or TV on if you aren't using it.

## Question Sheet

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**“A Day to Celebrate Earth” Questions**

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. Someone would read this passage to
- learn about the Earth.
  - learn about the life of Gaylord Nelson.
  - get information on how to best take care of the earth.
  - learn about trees.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. The author mentions Gaylord Nelson in this passage, because
- Nelson was from Wisconsin.
  - Nelson was a senator.
  - Nelson started Arbor Day.
  - Nelson started Earth Day.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. In the sentence, “If you see litter, pick it up and put it in trash cans or recycling bins”, the word *litter* can be replaced with the word or words
- trees.
  - trash.
  - paper.
  - milk cartons.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. The author includes the part called, “Save a Tree, Plant a Tree,”
- to encourage people to save paper.
  - to encourage people to plant trees.
  - to teach people about Arbor Day.
  - all of the above.

- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. What would happen if humans did not take good care of the Earth?

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