

Lesson 6: Earth Day Video

Summary: In this lesson, students will learn interesting facts about our planet. Then, the class will choose an activity to celebrate Earth. They will record their experience during the activity, and finally, students will share their video and experience in a webinar with our global learning community.

objectives

- Students will learn facts about the Earth.
- Students will film a video celebrating the Earth.
- Students will celebrate Earth Day with our global learning community.

key words

- Earth Day
- Global Learning

materials

- Camera
- Video editor
- Computer

time

- One or two weeks



Teacher Presented Knowledge (I Do)

Present these facts to your students, feel free to add new information if needed. Ask them what other interesting facts they know about our planet.

1. **Blue Planet:** Earth is often referred to as the "Blue Planet" because more than 70% of its surface is covered by water, giving it its distinctive blue appearance from space.
2. **One Moon, One Earth:** Earth has only one natural satellite, the Moon, which plays a crucial role in stabilizing its rotation and influencing tides.
3. **Dynamic Atmosphere:** Earth's atmosphere is a complex mixture of gases, primarily nitrogen (78%) and oxygen (21%), along with trace amounts of other gases that help regulate temperature and support life.
4. **Plate Tectonics:** The Earth's lithosphere is divided into large sections called tectonic plates that float on the semi-fluid asthenosphere. The movement of these plates leads to earthquakes, volcanic activity, and the shaping of continents.
5. **Water Reservoirs:** The majority of Earth's freshwater is stored in glaciers and ice caps (68.7%), followed by groundwater (30.1%). Lakes, rivers, and swamps make up just a small fraction of the total.
6. **The Grand Canyon:** The Grand Canyon in the United States was carved over millions of years by the Colorado River, revealing layers of rock that offer a geological record of Earth's history.
7. **Magnetic Field:** Earth has a magnetic field generated by the movement of molten iron in its outer core. This field protects the planet from harmful solar radiation and cosmic particles.
8. **Biodiversity Hotspots:** Rainforests, such as the Amazon Rainforest, are considered biodiversity hotspots, containing an incredibly diverse array of plant and animal species, many of which are still undiscovered.
9. **The Deep Sea:** The deepest part of Earth's oceans is the Challenger Deep within the Mariana Trench. It reaches a depth of about 36,070 feet (10,994 meters), making it the deepest known point in the ocean.

10. **Oxygen Production:** A significant portion of Earth's oxygen is produced by marine plants, particularly phytoplankton, through photosynthesis. They contribute more oxygen to the atmosphere than forests.

11. **The Water Cycle:** The Earth's water undergoes a continuous cycle, moving through processes like evaporation, condensation, precipitation, and runoff. This cycle helps distribute water across the planet.

12. **Antarctic Ice Sheet:** The Antarctic Ice Sheet is the largest single mass of ice on Earth, covering about 98% of the continent. It contains about 60% of the world's freshwater.

13. **Ancient Rocks:** Some of the oldest rocks on Earth, found in Western Greenland, date back around 3.8 billion years, providing insights into the early history of our planet.

14. **Oxygen Evolution:** Earth's atmosphere was initially devoid of oxygen, and the evolution of photosynthetic organisms over billions of years gradually led to the oxygen-rich atmosphere we have today.

15. **Earthquakes and Shifting Continents:** Earth's continents are constantly moving due to plate tectonics. For example, the Atlantic Ocean is widening as North America and Europe drift away from each other.

Guided Student Practice (We Do)

Choose one or several of these activities.

- **Outdoor Exploration:** Organize a nature walk or outdoor scavenger hunt to connect students with the natural world and inspire appreciation for their local environment.
- **Gardening Activity:** If feasible, engage students in a simple gardening activity, such as planting seeds or caring for potted plants, to teach them about the importance of plants in our ecosystem.
- **Art Project:** Have students create eco-friendly crafts using recycled materials, showcasing their creativity while promoting recycling and re-use.
- **Environmental Awareness Campaigns:** Divide students into groups and assign each group an environmental topic (e.g., wildlife conservation, air quality). Have them create awareness campaigns, including posters, videos, or social media posts.

- **Environmental Poetry or Art Contest:** Encourage students to express their feelings about nature and the environment through poetry, paintings, or drawings. Display their artwork in a gallery or hold a poetry reading session.
- **Eco-Friendly Fashion Show:** Challenge students to create outfits using recycled materials or home items. Host a fashion show to showcase their creativity while promoting sustainable fashion.
- **Community Clean-Up:** Organize a clean-up event in a local park, beach, or neighborhood. Emphasize the importance of keeping the environment clean and reducing litter.

Student Independent Practice (You Do)

Have your students film or make photos of their experience.

Here are some tips that might be helpful in delivering an excellent video:

- Find the right spot, like a quiet location with good natural daylight or excellent indoor lighting and a nice background. Try to avoid windows, people talking, or moving around. Keep the focus on you or your group.
- Place the camera at eye level. Write a script or plan what you will do during the video. Avoid using colors that blend with the background.
- Speak loudly and clearly.
- You can begin and end your video with a short silence if you need to edit it.
- Have much fun filming it and remember to bring in your friends!
- Share with other OneWorld'ers around the globe.

Closing

Discuss with your students what was their experience with the activity or activities they chose.

Ask:

- Did they share it with other One World schools?
- What did they learn during this process?
- Do you feel your effort was worthy?