



Peace and love starts right here right now.

This is a project that supports the Earth Pledge of Allegiance. Please visit <http://www.peaceandloveforall.com> to find more activities, projects that support the Earth and her inhabitants. And if you've got an idea to share, send it to us. As we work together, we support our One Planet, indivisible, with safe air, water and soil, economic justice, equal rights and peace and love for all.

Cleaning Up the Earth Day

Adapted from An Educator's Reference Desk Lesson Plan, submitted by Adam Mohr

Objective

Set a day aside for cleaning up the Earth. During the week prior, review the importance of keeping our waters, soil and air clean. Engage the students in a fun, helping the environment activity. The students will realize that pollution is one of the world's biggest problems and find out what he or she can do to help clean up our Earth.

The students will be able to:

- comprehend environmental issues our planet faces
- state some facts about recycling
- help clean up a school playground
- chart different types of pollution on a bar graph

Materials Needed

Paper garbage bags, gloves, graph paper, old newspapers

Strategy:

1. Before the activity, explain that pollution is one of our biggest environmental concerns.
2. Ask the students what they think they can do to help.
3. Explain that the class will be broken up into two or three teams.
4. Each team will be given rubber gloves and a garbage bag.
5. Explain that no sharp or glass objects are to be picked up by any student.
6. The teacher or custodian may pick these up.
7. Tell each of them that they will have 15 minutes to pick up as much litter on the school ground as possible.
8. Explain the boundaries as well to them so they are aware of where they may and may not go.
9. After the 15 minutes, gather them up outside and sort out the trash into separate bags so that each can be properly discarded and recycled.
10. Have each team chart the various types of garbage he or she found like plastics, paper, metal, etc.
11. Make sure they recycle the gloves, too.

Conclusion

At the conclusion of the clean up discuss the following questions:

What objects were most abundant?

What objects were least abundant?

What else can we do to help the Earth?

Do we see how 15 minutes can help our Earth?

Imagine what 3 hours could do?