

# CELEBRATING PLANET EARTH

## EARTH DAY IDEAS: Students weigh ways to care for our planet

*Editor's note: Students were asked to journal using these five daily prompts from April 21 to 24, in honor of Earth Day. This year was the 50th anniversary of Earth Day, which has been held every April 22 since 1970.*

'We should take care of Earth ... Earth is where we live'

**By Alexandra Geronimo**  
HERITAGE ELEMENTARY

### Monday: Why do we need to take care of the Earth?

I think that we should take care of the Earth for many reasons. One reason why I think we should take care of Earth is because Earth is where we live, and if we don't take care of it, then it won't be a good place to live in. Another reason why I think we should take care of Earth is because we are destroying it and that is bad.

This is why I think we should take care of the Earth.

### Tuesday: What do you love most about nature?

One thing that I like the most about nature is that nature makes a lot of beautiful sounds, places and much. Another thing I like about nature is that it is very peaceful. This is what I love about nature.

### Wednesday: Why is it important to recycle?

I think it is important to recycle because it is good to reuse items to make more items. That way, we won't be making more of the items when we can be reusing other items to make other items.

### Thursday: How can you teach people about the environment?

There are many ways to teach people about the environment, but here are a few. One way is to make posters that tell and show about the environment and put them up around different places. Another way, is maybe make a book about the environment and how it's really been changing. These are two ways that you can teach people about the environment.

### Friday: What are some ways that you and your family could reduce and reuse?

One way my family can reduce and reuse is save items like plastic bottles, newspapers, etc. and send them to recycling centers. Another way is to use used items around the house and make some items that we would need. These are some ways my family can reuse and reduce.

'Earth has been here far longer than us, even all of humanity'

**By Mohammad Ahsan**  
HERITAGE ELEMENTARY

### Monday: Why do we need to take care of the Earth?

We need to take care of Earth and there are many reasons. Here are a few. In my opinion we need to protect the Earth because it is not only our planet, but so many other living things home too. The Earth has been here far longer than us, even all of humanity. The human race has only been polluting it. Then, for the future years, the drinking water will be bad, the air will be bad to breathe, and plants and other living things that do not have homes like us will die. The Earth will have

gone from a lush green planet, to a place where no one can live. These are a few reasons why we need to take care of Earth.

### Tuesday: What do you love most about nature?

Something that I love about nature is that it is so beautiful. It is full of magic and wonders, and it has kept people curious.

### Wednesday: Why is it important to recycle?

Here are some reasons why it is important to recycle. It is important to recycle because if we do not we will eventually run out of resources. With recycling we can reuse and keep the cycle going. Also recycling keeps the world clean. The Earth is our planet and it is the only one we get so we need to take care of it.

### Thursday: How can you teach people about the environment?

Here is one way that you can teach someone about the environment. If they like animals you can talk to them about how you need to take care of the environment, or the animals will not have a home. Then, they will take care of the environment and protect the animals they care about. This is one way you can teach someone about the environment.

### Friday: What are some ways that you and your family could reduce and reuse?

There are many ways that we could reduce and reuse. For example, if we were to have bought something that came with cardboard, we could have been creative and made a model of a house or something. This is only one of many ways you could reduce and reuse.

'Your trash could end up anywhere in the world'

**By Yahir Gomez Gonzalez**  
HERITAGE ELEMENTARY

### Monday: Why do we need to take care of the Earth?

We need to take care of the Earth because it is the only planet that we can live on. We also need to take care of the Earth because if we don't then some animals can die or go extinct. For example, if we litter, animals might mistake it for food and eat it and that can sometimes kill them or harm them. These are some reasons why we need to take care of the Earth.

### Tuesday: What do you love most about nature?

What I love most about nature is that you can go out and explore. For example, if you go camping you can explore and see if there are animals out there.

What I also love most about nature is that you can go hiking. And, at the end, you can see how far you have gone. This is what I love about nature the most.

### Wednesday: Why is it important to recycle?

It is important to recycle because if you don't, then your trash could end up anywhere in the world. For example, it could end up on a beach, and the beach would eventually be covered in trash. It could even end up in lakes, rivers, and in an ocean. If it does end up in an ocean, river or lake, then it could harm wildlife. These are some reasons why I think we

## Kids make new friends while social distancing

Inspired by "Toy Story 4" and the beloved new character Forky, Heritage Elementary School teacher Janine Jacinto challenged students to make new friends while social distancing during the COVID-19 pandemic — literally. Here are their new friends, made from recyclable materials and trash.



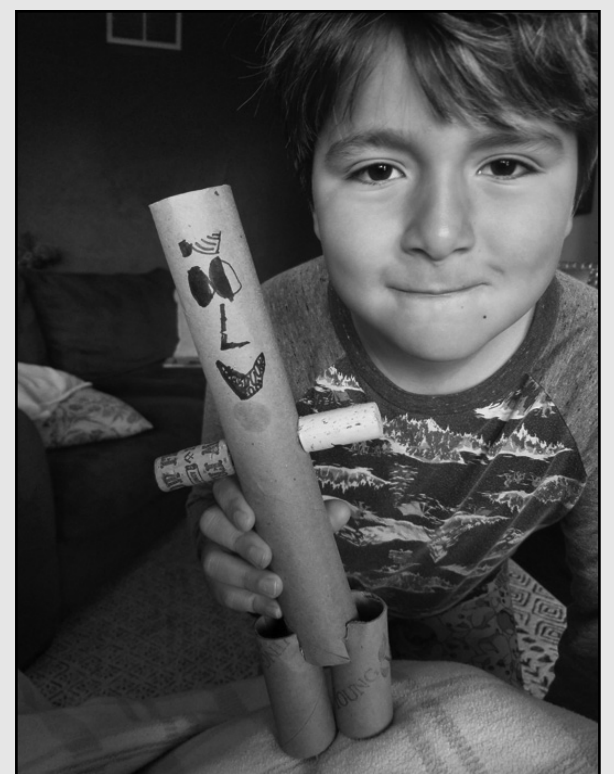
Max Hernandez-Velasquez of Heritage School with his hammerhead shark pal Hammer.



Yaneisy Roman Ortiz of Heritage Elementary School holds her homemade friend Kathy.



So much fun she didn't stop at one: Jaylene Guerrero of Heritage Elementary School with Jack and Jill.



Cruz Martinez of Reese Elementary holds his new friend, Cruz Jr., made of cardboard tubes and corks.

should recycle.

### Thursday: How can you teach people about the environment?

Some ways I could teach people about the environment is by telling them that smoke pollutes the environment and that sometimes it might harm animals. You could also tell them that trash could end up in the ocean and harm fish or the ecosystem. You could tell them that trash pollutes the air and makes it unhealthy for people, animals, and plants. These are some ways you can teach people about the environment.

### Friday: What are some ways that you and your family could reduce and reuse?

Some ways my family could reduce and reuse is by throwing plastic things into a recycling bin. Another way that my family could reduce and reuse is if we don't litter. And we could reduce and reuse by not using the car so it doesn't pollute the air. These are some ways that my family could reduce and reuse.

'It is important to recycle ... supplies on Earth are scarce'

**By Eduardo Lopez Coyazo**  
HERITAGE ELEMENTARY

### Monday: Why do we need to take care of the Earth?

I think we need to take care of Earth because we live on it, and so far it is the only planet that has breathable air and has water.

### Tuesday: What do you love most about nature?

What I love most about nature is trees because they provide oxygen for people and for the liv-

ing things on Earth.

### Wednesday: Why is it important to recycle?

It is important to recycle because supplies on Earth are scarce and we can reuse the supplies we have to save supplies for future generations.

### Thursday: How can you teach people about the environment?

You can tell people that plastic is very harmful to the environment because many animals mistake it for food.

### Friday: What are some ways that you and your family could reduce and reuse?

These are ways to reuse paper. One way we could reuse paper is if one side is full you turn the page and start writing there.

'The thing I love most is the sound of nature'

**By Leonardo Salazar Flores**  
HERITAGE ELEMENTARY

### Monday: Why do we need to take care of the Earth?

It's our only planet viable for us to live on. I think the reason we have to take care of our Earth is because it's the only planet that we can live on. Another reason is because it's a beautiful planet as well. This is why I think we need to take care of Earth.

### Tuesday: What do you love most about nature?

I love the pleasing sounds of nature. There are many things I love about nature, but the thing I love the most is the sounds of nature. For example, you're walking through a forest and you hear the birds chirping and the wind making the trees move.

### Wednesday: Why is it important to recycle?

It's important to recycle because when we recycle we also reuse items, for example water bottles or anything that uses plastic. While recycling we also reduce the use of other items.

### Thursday: How can you teach people about the environment?

I can teach people about the environment by telling them what type of animals there are.

There are many ways on how to teach people about the environment. For example, talking about the environment or the type of trees in that area. I would teach them about what kind of animals are in the area. The reason is because they would then know what kind of animals there are and know their weaknesses, and they know what not to do in the environment and not harm the animals.

### Friday: What are some ways that you and your family could reduce and reuse?

Ways that my family and I could reduce and reuse is by using reusable bags. It also helps the environment. My family can also use reusable water bottles. My family is not only reducing and reusing, but also helping the environment.

'All the things we don't recycle will somehow end up in the ocean'

**By Nathalie Osorio-Rogel**  
HERITAGE ELEMENTARY

### Monday: Why do we need to take care of the Earth?

We need to take care of Earth for many reasons. One of those reasons is because we should take

care of Earth is because we live on Earth and it is our responsibility to take care of it. We need to care for animals that live on Earth. Some animals are food for some humans. We also need to consider walking more than using cars. My reason for that is because all the smoke that is released when driving, or turning on your engine, stays in the air. And too much smoke in the air can be harmful to humans and animals.

### Tuesday: What do you love most about nature?

What I love most about nature is every landscape is different, and has its own unique feature. For example, I really like that some landscapes have flowers that are very pretty. What is really cool is there is different types of rocks in different areas. Some might have crystals, diamonds, gems, or other types of rocks. Each different part of nature is different from the rest, which makes it very exciting, because you will not know what another part of nature has.

Nature also has animals. Animals are very fascinating. Looking at animals that you have never seen is amazing because of what you can observe, and learn from them.

One last thing I love about nature is there is a smell that is different wherever you go in nature, that might or not be pleasant.

### Wednesday: Why is it important to recycle?

It is important to recycle, because all the things we don't recycle will somehow end up in the ocean. An estimate of 14 billion pounds of plastic that enter the ocean a year. Why? Because some people don't recycle, and when they don't, and they put plastic in their

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