It's Earth Day!



by John Manos

Benchmark EDUCATION

Level 2 M Word Count: 601*

The Big Idea

This book discusses the history and purpose of Earth Day and suggests ways kids can get involved.

Skills at a Glance

Monitor-Reading
- Retell what you've read

Comprehension
- Draw conclusions

Phonics
- R-controlled e, i, u (dirty, hurt, person

Word Study
- Suffix -tion (celebration, invitation)

Fluency
- Read question marks

Content Vocabulary
- environment, pollution, recycle

* Numerals, vocabulary words on pages 2 and 3, and words in photo captions, labels, diagrams, and charts are not included in the word count for this book.

What is Earth Day?

For teachers' instruction ONLY



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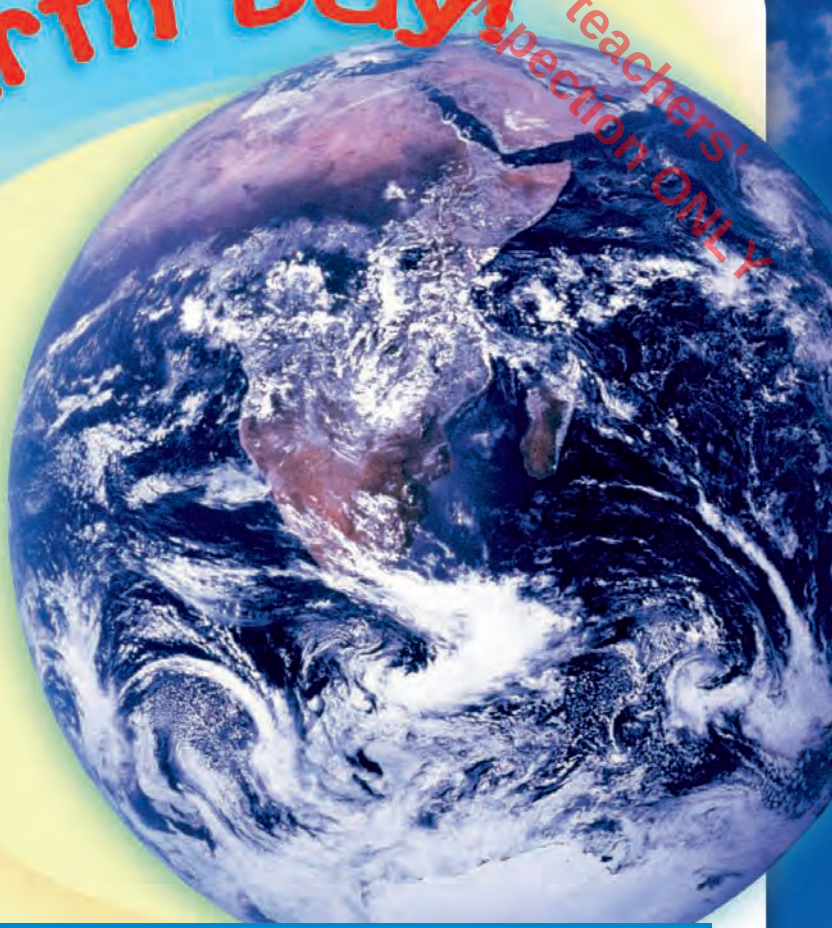


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I need to know these words.

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Earth Day



environment



planet



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pollution



projects



recycle



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What Is Earth Day?

What is your favorite day of the year? Is your birthday your favorite day? You know that people care about you on that day. People might give a party for you.

Earth Day is like a birthday for Earth! On Earth Day, people think about our planet. People show that they care about Earth. They teach others to care, too.



▲ **Do you make birthday cards to give? A child made this card for Earth Day.**

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Earth Day is on April 22 each year in most places. Earth Day is on the first day of spring in other places. That day is March 20 or March 21.

People all around the world have fun on Earth Day. People think of ways to help keep Earth clean and beautiful.



Did You Know?

- In 1990, millions of people celebrated Earth Day.
- Today, at least 140 nations around the world celebrate Earth Day.

◀ April 22 is Earth Day. People plant trees to help Earth.

Before Earth Day, many people did not worry about Earth. People thought our planet would always be safe and clean. Earth is so big! What could hurt Earth?

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▲ The smoke from this factory can hurt Earth.

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Dirty gases in the air could hurt Earth. Trash in the water could hurt Earth. Pollution could hurt Earth. In 1970, newspapers told about pollution in many places on Earth.

In Their Own Words

The person who started Earth Day said that everyone should

"wake up and do something."





▲ What would you do with this garbage?

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Pollution was a big problem. What could solve the problem? A group of people had an idea. Everyone could celebrate Earth and learn about Earth's problems on the same day. The group of people started Earth Day.



▲ **The first Earth Day celebration was on April 22, 1970.**

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The first Earth Day was a success! On that day, people wanted to learn about Earth's problems. People came together to learn about the environment. People wanted to protect Earth from pollution. They wanted to learn how to solve the problems.



▲ **These people are telling others about Earth's problems.**