



NSDAR Educational Resources Committee

“Citizens of Earth –
Earth Day activities plus Citizen's Research project”

Contributor: Nancy Honea **Grade Level:** 1st – 3rd

1. Identify the standards to be addressed:

Gr.1-3 E4 standards 1-9

2. Statement of the objective and lesson outcomes:

Students will investigate the Earth Day and its focuses through a Reader's Theater and participation in a Citizen's Scientist Research Project.

3. Materials, resources, and technology to be used by teacher/students:

The lesson is guided by a power point with hyperlinks. The Reader's Theater is included as well as poster ideas for the recycling stations. Can be an afterschool activity.

4. Introduction of the topic:

Please see attached individual lesson plans.

5. Procedure for instruction:

Please see attached individual lesson plans.

6. Lesson closure:

Please see attached individual lesson plans.

7. Assessment of Understanding:

Please see attached individual lesson plans.

Citizen of Earth lesson outline

Teacher Notes

Lesson 1 – or 1-3 depending on your time frame -- lesson plan information

Use powerpoint to talk from. T&T –

Turn and Talk (students are partnered up in pairs or groups of 3-4 depending on class size) JOT- this is a quick write- not in sentence form (only for student's eyes so spelling doesn't matter) student use words to jog their memory- this is a first start at "note taking" or "opinion writing" .

Will need Citizen of Earth folders or plain paper—powerpoint—if on carpet then also need clipboards & pencil & highlighters

Powerpoint

- Students need to take a sheet of paper and fold it 3 times to get 8 boxes for today's jot work. After paper has been folded have student draw the dividing lines and number the boxes. This powerpoint references Earth Day and Recycling—if your city or county doesn't have pick up recycling you may need to change some of the information in the slides.
- Let's talk about the first slide....idea:" Let's see if we can guess what a CITIZEN OF EARTH is?" Brainstorm with students. Then T&T & jot... write their answers in BOX #1 on their boxed paper-
- View slide#2 – Discuss ; T&T and then add to box #1 jot if necessary.
- View slide #3 GOALS (I did this as an after school club- but it can be done as a little mini unit to celebrate EARTH DAY)
- Continue with slide #4—discuss the slide –idea:" Citizens of the USA say a pledge to our flag. This pledge is like a pledge for the EARTH-- What are you willing to do to be a good CITIZEN OF THE EARTH?" Have students think about this idea and then T&T—Say the pledge together!
- Slide #5 Idea: " What do we know about EARTH-- our planet? " T&T guiding question: What do you know about this planet? Discuss together as a whole and then list in box #2 on boxed paper some of facts that they might want to remember

. video #1 – there is a video link in this slide—it is a video about special features of our planet.

Guiding question: What new fact did you learn?-- T&T and then guided discussion with TE. Have students add their facts to Box #3-

- Return to powerpoint slide6 to learn about "EARTH DAY". There is a video link here also. Before watching the video see what background knowledge the students have. Allow students to T&T and then jot their ideas in box#4

---Show Video#2 then discuss and T&T. Have student jot in box#5 any new information they learned.

- Return to powerpoint slide#7—this is a listing of several projects that can be done to meet the goals that were listed on the first slide. You can change or added to these projects.
 - ** The reader's Theater is with the materials. Instructor is responsible for scheduling the performances. It requires several props so be sure to look over before performing.
 - **Instructors will also be responsible for gathering materials for the recycling stations and posters. Instructors will also be responsible for attaining permission to place stations and posters in hallways or classrooms.
 - ** Instructor can then discuss plans with students when viewing slide#7
- Slide #8- These are ideas to carry the mission out at home. Feel free to add or change this slide to meet your needs.-- Have students come up with ideas of what they can do at home and then have them jot in box#5
- Slides 9-10 are about the CITIZEN SCIENTIST RESEARCH PROJECT . This is optional. You can do it together or assign it as a project done at home. If you decide to take a grade on it- I would only use it as a participation grade. Standards ask students to collect data and discuss finding and this type of project is a good way to cover that standard.
- Below are examples of sites that have listings of Citizen Scientist Research projects. You will need to insert the link for your project once you have picked it.
- Below are some examples.
- <https://www.nationalgeographic.org/idea/citizen-science-projects/>
- <https://www.sciencenewsforstudents.org/article/kids-make-great-citizen-scientists>
- <https://www.popsci.com/story/diy/citizen-science-guide/>
- <https://pbskids.org/scigirls/citizen-science>
- <https://www.kcedventures.com/blog/12-amazing-citizen-scientist-projects-for-kids>



CITIZENS OF EARTH

Citizen

- A person who belongs to and protects
- A Citizen of Earth belongs to and protects
the Earth!

Goals:



TO BE A LEADER WHO RECYCLES AND REUSES.



TO LEARN MORE ABOUT TAKING CARE OF EARTH'S PLANT AND ANIMAL ENVIRONMENTS THEN SHARE THIS WITH OTHERS.



TO PARTICIPATE IN A CITIZEN'S SCIENTIST RESEARCH PROJECT.

Pledge

- I pledge to be a positive leader who sets an example by reducing, reusing and recycling.
- I pledge to do my part to protect Earth's environments.
- I pledge to participate and collaborate in a citizen's scientific research project.

Let's Learn About Our Earth

- Earth - The planet where we live.
- Earth- The 3rd planet from the sun.
- Earth- The 5th largest of all planets.
- What else does Earth have that the other planets do not have?
- [The Planet Earth Song | Planet Songs for Children | Earth Song for Kids | Silly School Songs - YouTube](#)

What is EARTH DAY?

- [PBS LEARNING MEDIA | Earth Day | PBS KIDS - YouTube](#)

Earth Day April 22

- How will we celebrate Earth Day?
- We will perform a reader's theater for other classes on Earth Day.
- We will create recycling stations for plastic bottles; aluminum cans; and paper.
- We will create informational posters to place in our school hallways and our homes.

Being Citizen's of Earth At Home and School

- **HOME----**We will begin convincing our parents to carry reusable shopping bags instead of using the plastic bags from the store.
- **SCHOOL---**We will encourage our classmates to recycle their plastic, aluminum and paper by using the Recycling Stations that we created.

Our Second Project:

Citizen Scientist

a member of the general public who collects and analyzes data relating to the natural world, typically as part of a collaborative project with professional scientists.

Our Citizen Scientist Research Project

- Insert info about the Citizen Scientist Research Project you selected

Reader's Theater

We Can Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle

Script Summary:

Children are cleaning up after art class. Their teacher helps them learn about the three R's--- Reduce, Reuse, Recycle.

Tips on using the scripts:

Be sure that each role is assigned to the student's reading level. Feel Free to divide roles to include more readers.

Discuss any vocabulary and have students practice their lines several times with the entire cast. Practice will help with fluency and delivery.

A tip is to have students use highlighters to highlight their parts.

Characters: Jake, Sara, Peter, Anna, Lilly, Molly, Greg, Tim Mr. Felix, Art teacher

Props:

Art Table; magazines; Plastic paint trays; used paper; empty paint jar; empty tissue box; trash can; empty box

We Can Reduce, Reuse and Recycle

Art Teacher:

OK students, Art class is over and it is time to clean up and get ready to return to your classroom.

-----Students standing around an art table-----

Jake:

Sara, it's our turn to clean this art table.

Sara:

This is all just trash! We can use rake it into the trash can. Easy!

Anna:

No, Wait! I think some of these things can be used again?

Jake:

It just looks like trash to me.

Tim:

Let's just throw it all in the trash so we can be first in line!

-----Mr. Felix walks up to the table and students-----

Mr. Felix:

I think Anna has a good idea. Let's use the three R's. We will be learning about them in science class this week.

Molly:

What are the three R's?

Mr. Felix:

Reduce, Reuse and Recycle. We need to always try to reduce our trash. So, that means we reuse as many things as possible and then recycle what we can't reuse.

Greg:

Nah, let's just throw it away – it's almost recess time!

Tim:

What's the big deal about trash anyway?

Jake:

I heard my mom say--The landfills that hold our trash are getting full.

Peter:

Sometimes plastic pieces from our trash are dumped into the ocean and hurt the fish and turtles that live there.

Mr. Felix:

We should do our part to make less trash for those landfills and keep plastic out of our oceans!

Sara:

I've got an idea! Let's clean out this empty paint jar and.....

Anna:

Reuse it for something else.....I see what you're thinking!

Molly:

Hey- It could be a pencil cup!

Lilly:

Or, it could hold all these paint brushes!

Jake:

Or, it could be a paper clip holder!

Mr. Felix:

How about a Treat Jar?

Greg:

Ok everyone, what about this empty tissue box? How could we reuse it?

Tim:

You can't do anything with that trash!

Peter:

I think it would work for holding all these markers.

Jake:

Or, we could turn it into a bird feeder for the outdoor classroom.

Molly:

Well, maybe it can just hold more art supplies.

Greg:

Those are all great ideas!

Lilly:

This is fun—I like thinking of ways to reuse things!

Sara:

My mom put paper, plastic jugs and metal cans in the city's recycling bins.

Anna:

Paper, Glass, plastic, and some metal things can all be recycled and made into other things instead of going into the landfill.

Mr. Felix:

Yes! That's called recycling!

Jake:

These plastic paint trays can be recycled.

Tim:

These magazines can also be recycled.

Molly:

This paper can be recycled too!

Sara:

We can also reuse it and draw on the other side!

Lilly:

I say we reuse this box to hold all that paper for drawing!

Mr. Felix:

You are really starting to get the idea! Great job!

Greg:

We turned out to be pretty good at finding ways to reduce, reuse and recycle!

-----All students high five and shout--- Reduce, Reuse, Recycle-----