



Let's Save the Earth!

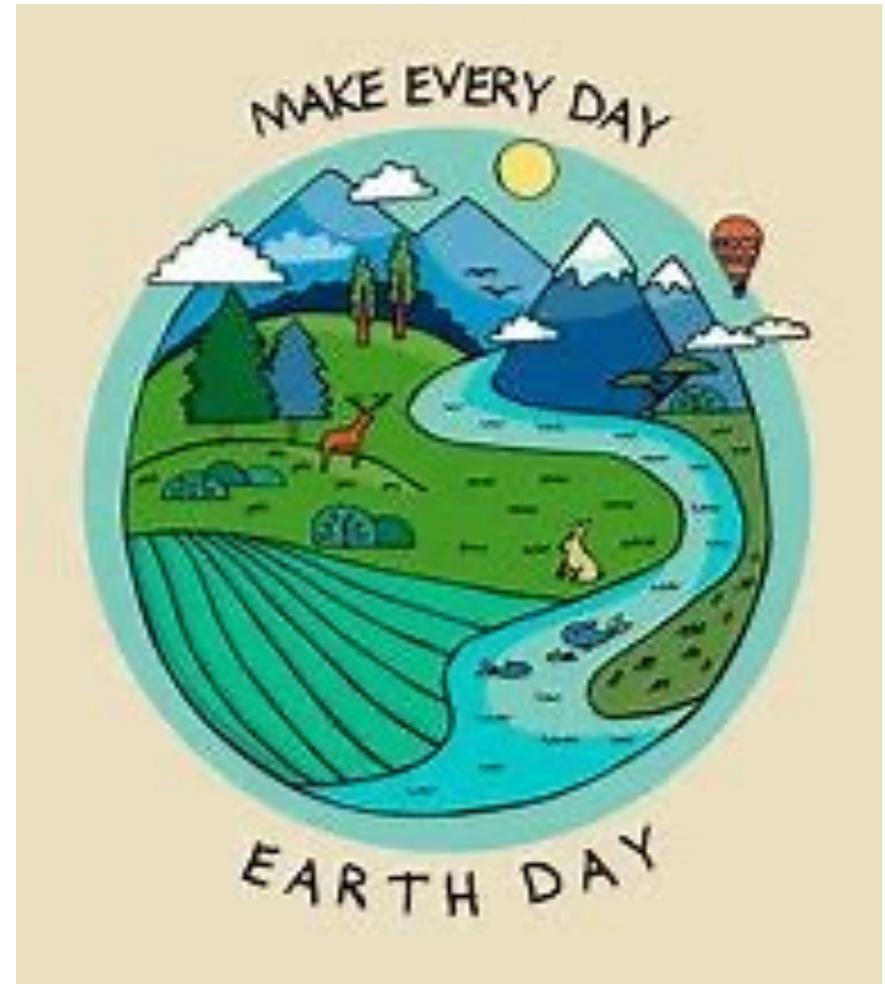
Reduce, Reuse, Recycle,
Compost—Yay!



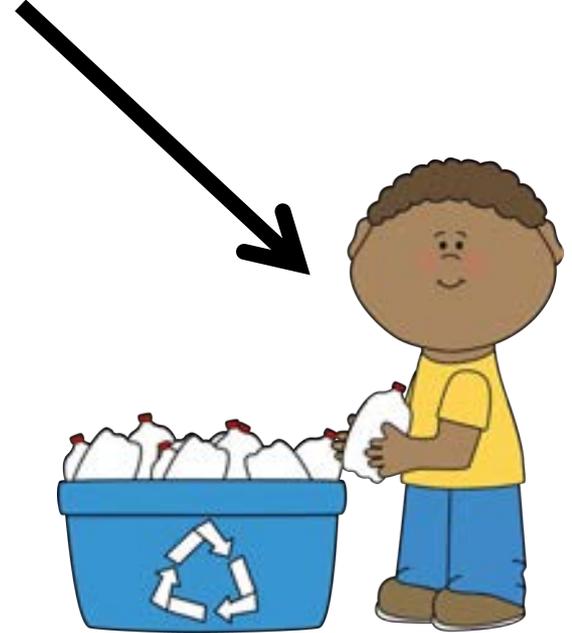
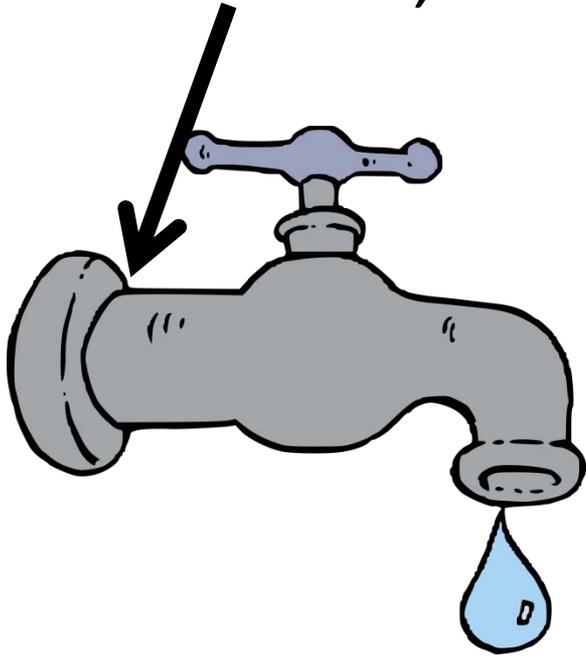
Earth Day

April 22nd

- Earth Day is coming, a day to think about how we can make the Earth healthier and cleaner.
- We can reduce using energy, water, and materials like paper and plastic.
- We can re-use objects and re-purpose them to use them in different ways.
- We can recycle plastic with numbers 1-7 on them, tin cans, aluminum cans, glass and paper.
- We can save our food scrapings to make compost for our gardens.



Reduce, reuse, recycle



Reduce, Reuse, Recycle Inventory!

Take an inventory of your house—how can you help the planet by using less?

- What can you do to use less energy and less water?
- What can you reuse so you use fewer things?
- What can you make into something new?
- What things will you be able to recycle?



Reducing garbage

You can reduce the garbage that goes to the landfill :

Package and date leftovers to reuse.

Separate food scraps and paper used with food to compost.

Recycle:

Paper milk and juice cartons

Empty aerosol cans

Egg cartons

Meat trays and Styrofoam food containers

Aluminum baking tins

Junk mail

Lotion and shampoo bottles

Paper gift wrap

Conserving energy

Use low energy light bulbs and appliances.

Keep anything electric unplugged when not in use.

Turn off the light when you leave the room.

Set the thermostat at 65 in the winter and 84 in the summer.

Insulate and add attic fans in the attic.

Use ceiling fans and whole house fans.

Conserving water

Turn off the water after wetting and rinsing hands—
don't keep it running.

Install low use toilets and faucets.

Wipe dishes rather than rinsing off food and grime.

Here are some other ways to think about helping the environment!

We need a healthy global climate!

We need healthy air!

We need healthy rivers and oceans!

We need healthy soil!

We need biodiversity!

How can we help?



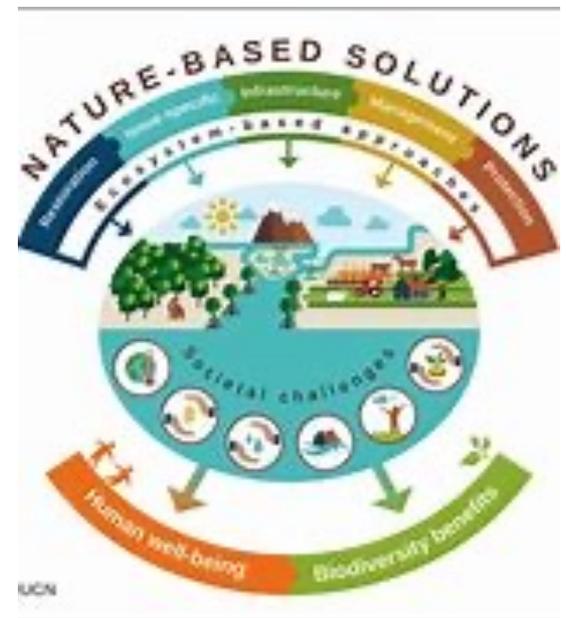
Helping begins with the little things we do every day; helping starts with how we live.

Where do some of the “greenhouse gases” that warm the climate come from? Major sources are from fossil fuels, agriculture, growing cattle and poultry, and destroying forests. We can think about renewable sources of energy like sun and wind, eating less meat and poultry, and planting more trees. We can think about hybrid and electric vehicles and more shared transportation.

How can we keep rivers and oceans safe? First, anything that falls on the ground or get flushed down the sink or toilet, goes into our rivers, and eventually our oceans—so there is no “away”. Fertilizers, chemicals from factories, all our plastics, eventually end up in our oceans. We can use other approaches than fertilizers, insecticides and herbicides to have healthy grass and plants. We can mulch and use natural insect control. We can reduce our plastic use with reusable straws, tableware, and bottles.

When we plant native plants, native grass, and reduce tilling the soil, we create healthy soil water *sponges*, and help capture and store carbon. Native plants and grasses and healthy soil also increase biodiversity and provide a wide variety of “ecosystem” services including slowing water movement, storing water, filtering water, providing the ecosystem for “detritivores” and decomposers to clean the environment.

We CAN make a difference!



Keeping the Earth clean

Pick up litter and dispose in the proper bin.

Participate in litter pick-up activities.

Bring a bag.

Invest in a reusable water bottle

Bring your own reusable cup.

Refuse single-use items.

Avoid products with microbeads.

Shop in bulk.

Make sure your waste goes to the right place. .

Compost.

Healthy soil

Don't till.

Don't use phosphorus-based fertilizer.

Add organic matter.

Incorporate compost to compacted soil to increase air, water and nutrients for plants.

Protect topsoil with mulch or cover crops.

Don't use chemicals unless there's no alternative.

Rotate crops.

Test your soil.

Keeping water clean

Recycle used motor oil.

Use a commercial car wash.

Flush responsibly.

Keep the areas adjacent to streams mow free.

Don't use phosphorus fertilizers on your lawn.

Put trash in the trash bag, not the toilet.

Sweep up leaves and mud.

Keeping the air clean

Use pumps rather than aerosol sprays.

Use electric or battery mowers and blowers, rather than gas based or sweep up leaves and use a mulching mower.

Use latex rather than oil-based paints and low VOC (volatile organic compounds).

Use smart charcoal and wood and newspaper rather than lighter fluid for grills and campfires and fireplaces.

Gas up after dark and don't overfill your tank.

Plastics—a special case

Plastic pollution has become an urgent environmental concern as the rapidly increasing production of disposable plastic products overwhelms the world's ability to deal with them.

Plastic pollution alters habitats and affects the well being, particularly of water creatures, as well as reducing ecosystems' ability to adapt to climate change, directly affecting millions of people's well-being.

The first step is to avoid any single use plastics, by using reusable bags, containers, bottles, and utensils.

The second step is to, if possible, reuse any plastic item, and, if permissible recycle.



Vegan—eat to reduce your carbon footprint

Did you know--a study from Oxford University identified going vegan as the “single biggest way” we can reduce our carbon footprint, shrinking it up to 73%.

What is a vegan diet? Vegans do not eat any animal products, meat, dairy or eggs.

What are some of the environmental advantages? Plant based eating uses significantly less water, energy and food, reduces methane emissions, and is healthier for the soil.

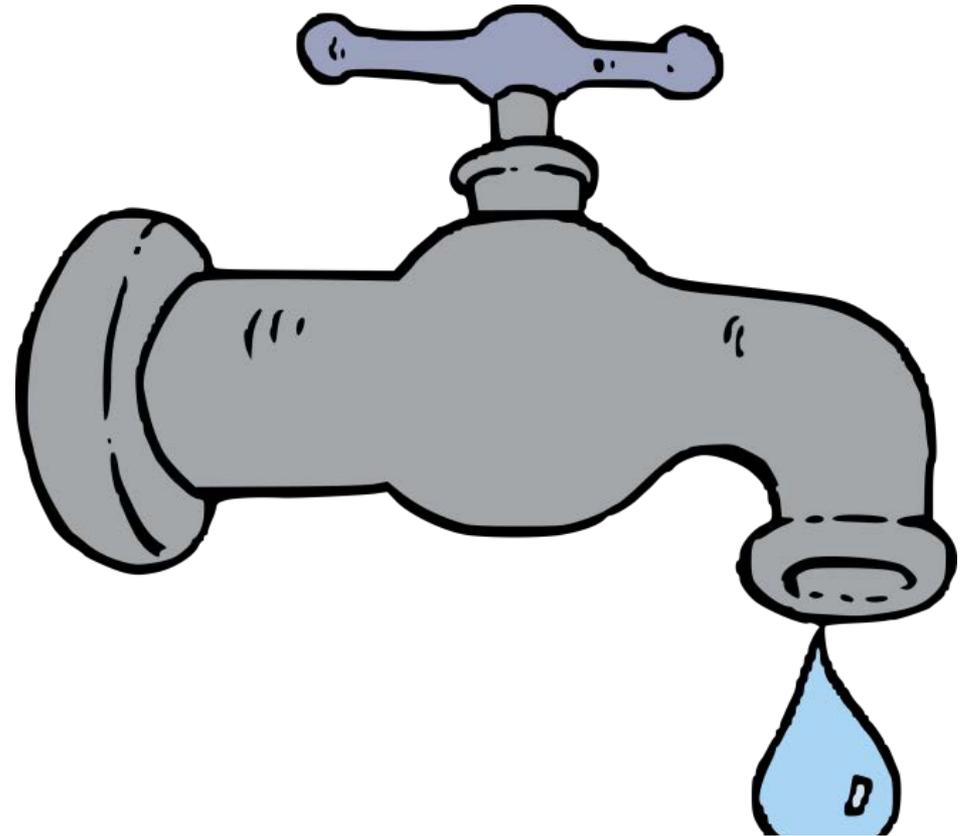


More and Less

We save the environment!



Using less is
what I do,



Or making
things into
something
new.



Sorting is
how I
begin,



To find the
things for
the
recycling
bin!



You can sing this to *Pop Goes the Weasel*.

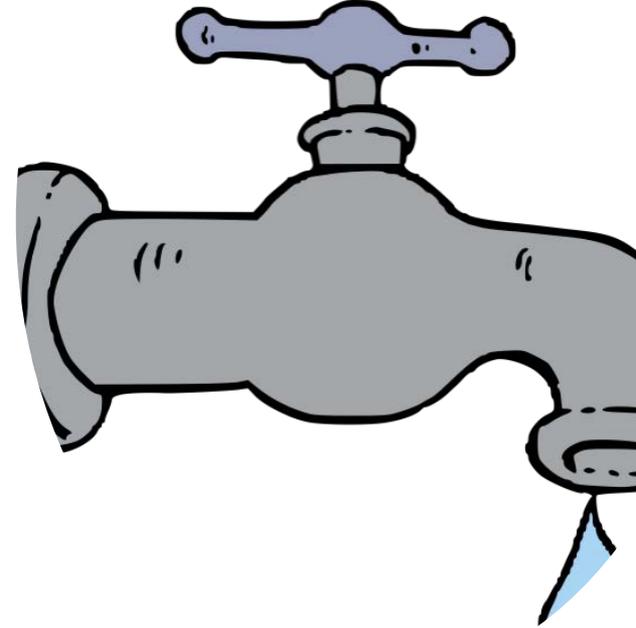
**Reduce, (hands going from apart to together),
reuse (hands circling each other),
recycle (hands putting object in a pretend recycle bin),**

**Reduce, (hands going from apart to together),
reuse (hands circling each other),
recycle (hands putting object in a pretend recycle bin),**

**When we use less (hands going together),
we all get more (hands going way out to the sides).**

Let's all use less! (Clap!)

from Growing Up WILD



You can sing this to *If You're Happy and You Know It*

If you're trying to use less (hands going together)
clap your hands—clap, clap

If you're trying to use less (hands going together)
clap your hands—clap, clap

When we're using less (hands together), we're
showing

That we're caring (hugging yourself) for the friends
we're knowing.

If you're trying to use less (hands going
together)clap your hands—clap, clap

from Growing Up WILD



What we
can't
recycle in
San
Antonio:

Plastic bags

Aluminum foil

Diapers

Hangers

Clothing

Toys

Wax paper

Plastic utensils

Light bulbs

Garden hoses

Every day is a great time to recycle!

Reuse wrapping paper!

What are some ways you can reuse wrapping paper?

- You can wrap something else in it.
- You can paint a picture on it.
- You can glue it on a jar to make a vase.



Reuse cards!

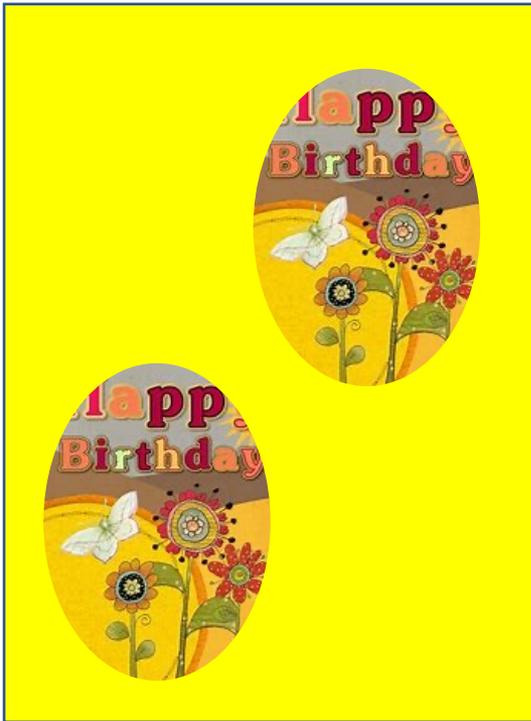
What are some ways you can reuse cards?

- You can cut up cards and make a collage.
- You can decorate a box with pictures from the cards.
- You can _____?



We can reuse old cards and make new cards or reuse newspaper to make wrapping paper.

Reused old card into new card



Reusing newspaper into wrapping paper



You can make gifts reusing things around the house!

You can make wrapping paper or a gift box.

- What kind of paper can you reuse—a brown paper bag or a large envelope?
- Now you can draw, or paint or glue things on it and you have wrapping paper.
- You can use a box and you have a gift box!



You can make cards!

- What can you use for your card—a piece of cardboard from a package, a thin piece of Styrofoam?
- Now cut up old cards, wrapping paper and ribbons and use them to decorate your card.



You can recycle some plastics, paper, glass and cans.

Always check for the triangle and number!

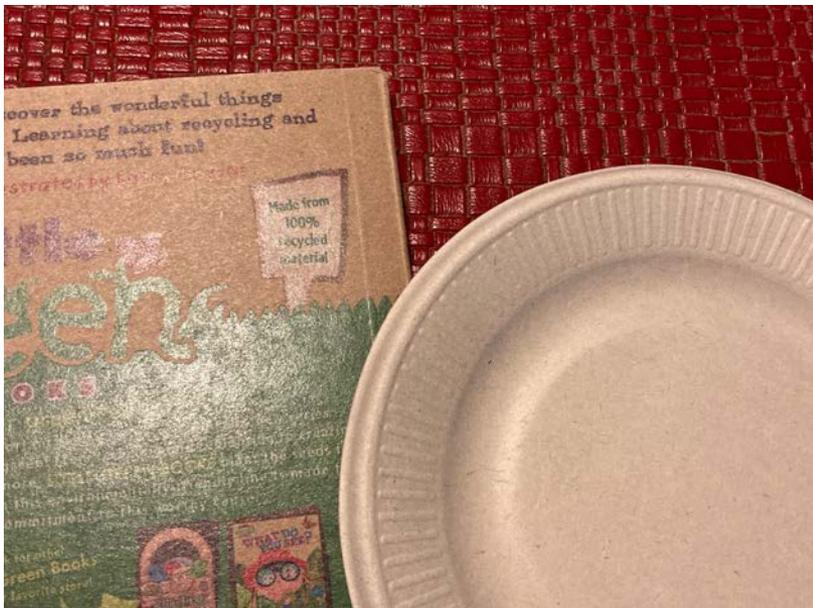


And make sure everything is clean!

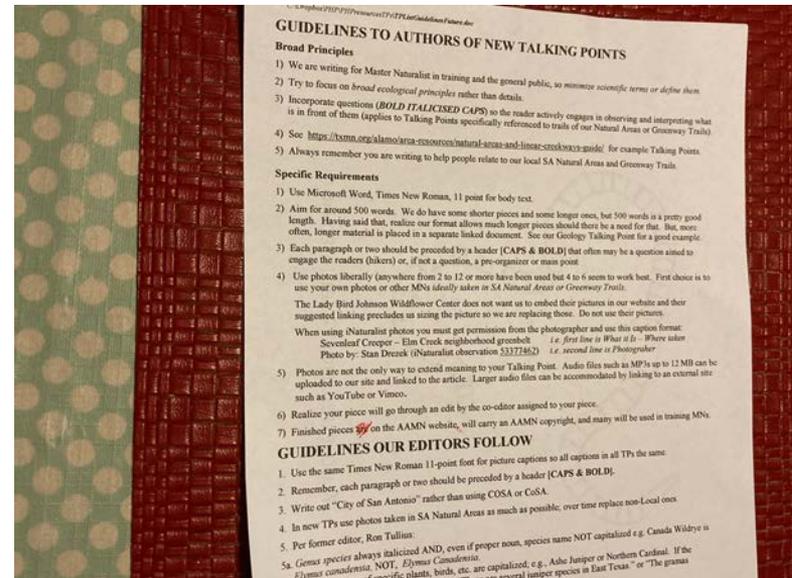


You can use recycled products and reuse paper.

Books and plates made from recycled paper



Printing on the back side of a paper



You can use lids, packing and boxes--

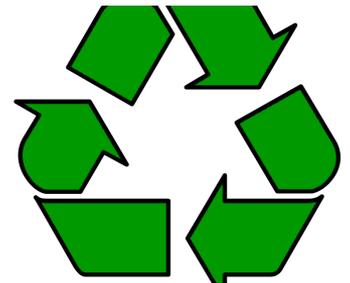
To make recycle art and--

Recycle containers!



You can make your own recycling bin!

- **Get a box.**
- **Cut out the recycling symbol.**
- **Glue the symbol on the box.**
- **Now RECYCLE!**



Recycle symbol for making a recycling box





In San Antonio, the green bins are the compost bins. Using the green bin reduces garbage in the landfill.

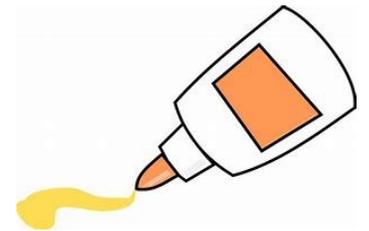
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Composting is a way to reuse spoiled food and food preparation paper, and to reduce using chemical fertilizer and make healthier soil.

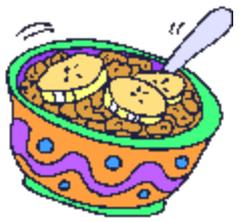
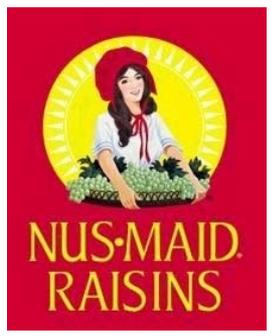
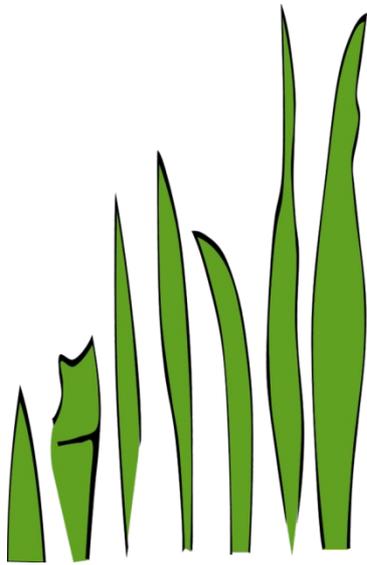
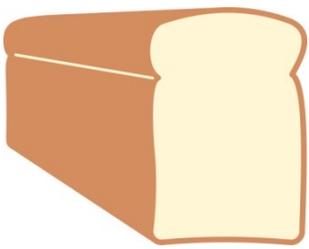
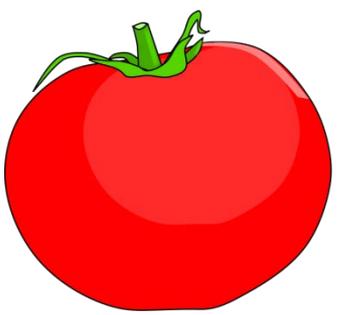
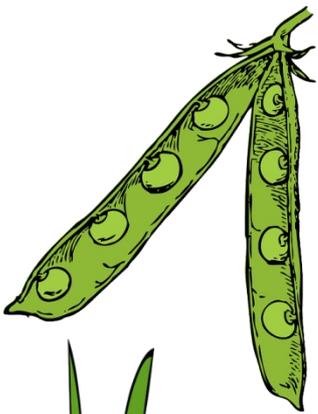
Compost Soup

You can make a compost soup craft:

- First find a paper bowl or reused plastic container.
- Then cut out the the food pictures.
- Finally glue them on the bowl, and you have Compost Soup!



Pictures for Compost Soup craft



Reuse a plastic produce container to make a compost bin!

- Poke holes in the lid.
- Put a layer of soil at the bottom.
- (If you can dig up some worms, put them on the soil.)
- Place some rotting food on the soil.
- Place a layer of shredded paper on the food.
- Spray the paper layer with water to moisten.
- Place a layer of dry shredded paper on top.
- Cover with a piece of paper.
- Put on the lid.
- If you have worms put a piece of rotting food in each week.
- If you don't have worms, moisten and turn over once each week.



Conservation Snack!

Let's think GREEN!

- Is there some leftover food you can reuse?
- How can you prepare your snack reducing=conserving water and energy?
- Can you recycle a container or compost your scraps?



Examples of REUSE

Cut up old clothes to make cleaning rags.

Keep glass jars for storing things.

Use paper publications for cleaning instead of paper towels. Place the paper under the item to be cleaned.

Other examples:

Use straws to keep chains and cables from tangling.

Use old toothbrushes to clean.

Use soap slivers to make a bar of cleaning soap.

Turn boxes into lunchboxes or storage.

Turn bottles into candle holders.

Use bubble wrap for insulating pipes.

I reused my
broken candies
from making a
peacock to make
new treats!



You can reuse candy and pretzels broken pieces in a new delightful confection!

Peacock candies cut up



New candy treat from melted peacock candies!



You can make new confections from leftover snacks!

Leftover snacks--



New chocolate patty!



What are other ways you can make an Earth Day snack?

- Using filtered sink water instead of bottled water
- Taking bits and pieces of chips and pretzels from baking and snacks and making your very own special trail mix
- Buying discarded produce instead of new produce



Books

Compost Stew by
Mary McKenna
Siddals and Ashley
Wolff

Michael Recycle by
Ellie Bethel and
Alexandra
Columbo

Clara the Cookie
Fairy by Thomas
Nelson

I Can Save the
Earth by Alison
Inches and Viviana
Garfoli

Choose to Reuse
by Elizabeth
Bewley and Miriam
Latimer

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