

Devonshire Does Earth Day 2020



Treat the Earth well. It was not given to you by your parents, it was loaned to you by your children.
Kenyan proverb

What is Earth Day?

Earth Day, which was established in 1970 in the US, is celebrated on 22nd April each year. It is a day to think about our planet and what we can do to keep it special; to think about saving water and energy, reducing pollution, recycling, protecting our animals, trees and plants, and generally getting everyone interested in protecting their environment.



What is the theme for Earth Day 2020?

The theme for Earth Day 2020 is **climate action**. The enormous challenge but also the massive opportunities of action on climate change have identified the issue as the most pressing topic for the 50th anniversary.

Climate change represents the biggest challenge to the future of humanity and the life-support systems that make our world habitable.

The History of Earth Day

Earth Day was a joined response to an environment in crisis- oil spills, smog, rivers so polluted they literally caught fire.

On April 22, 1970, 20 million Americans, 10% of the U.S. population at the time, took to the streets, colleges and hundreds of cities to protest environmental ignorance and demand a new way forward for our planet.

The first Earth Day is recognized with launching the modern environmental movement, and is now recognized as the planet's largest public event.

The first Earth Day in 1970 launched a wave of action, including the opening of landmark environmental laws in the United States. The Clean Air, Clean Water and Endangered Species Acts were created in response to the first Earth Day in 1970, as well as the creation of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Many countries soon agreed similar laws.

Earth Day continues to hold major international significance: In 2016, the United Nations chose Earth Day as the day when the historic Paris Agreement on climate change was signed into force.

What can you do for Earth Day 2020?

- Plant some seeds
- Go for a long walk (leave the car behind)
- Hold a nature "scavenger hunt". Go out into the garden or on your local walk; collect - or spot - items on a list your adults make for you. You could add things like different mini-beasts and plants.
- Draw posters and place in strategic positions around the house. Talk about saving water when brushing teeth and saving energy by turning off the lights when you leave a room
- Do a litter clean-up at home or in the garden – don't touch things out on your walk though!
- Set up a recycling centre in your home – cardboard/plastic/paper!
- Sort out any old clothes/books/toys for charity when charity shops re-open. Recycle don't bin!
- Make a pledge poster for Earth Day– what you pledge to do this year for the environment. Make it eye-catching and colourful. Ask a grown up to photograph it and send it to the school email below. We will publish them on the school website! Please do not write your name on the front though!

Examples of activities



You can find out more about Earth Day here: <https://www.earthday.org/earth-day-2020/>

Please send any photos of your posters or activities (no faces or names please for safeguarding reasons) to: office@devjunacademy.org.uk

