



Pre-K Activity Packet

April 20 through April 24, 2020

Dear Parents,

This year is the 50th anniversary of Earth Day. When Earth Day began on April 22, 1970, people wanted everyone to appreciate our planet. They started to conserve energy by driving slower, shutting off their lights more often, making compost piles, recycling newspapers, bottles, and cans, and by trying to use more materials that will break down naturally to save our natural resources. We hope you will try the experiment below to see how long it takes for everyday materials to break down and return to earth.

Liz

We do not inherit the earth from our ancestors, we borrow it from our children –
Native American Proverb

Letter of the Week: U

Letter of the Week Instructions:



Each teacher has a variation on the letter of the week. It is possible your teacher may have sent different plans for the letter "U." Please pick and choose the activities that are best for your child.

To Create "U" Letter of the Week:

Supplies:

- Construction paper-different colors
- Black crayon or marker
- Craft eyes-can be googly eyes, construction paper or drawn
- Ribbon, crepe paper or strips of paper
- Glue

Directions:

- Select a piece of construction paper
- Cut out a large "U"
- Cut a triangle for Unicorn's ear
- Cut a rocket shaped piece for Unicorn's horn
- Draw face with crayon or marker
- Glue or staple horn, ear and ribbons (paper)

Options:

- Think of a U name to name your unicorn.
- Search your house inside and outside for objects that begin with U.
- Ask your family to think of U words. Write them down and count them up. See how many you can think up.

Theme of the Week: Earth Day

Earth Week beginning on 4-20-2020 marks the 50th celebration of Earth Day!

We do not inherit the earth from our ancestors, we borrow it from our children – Native American Proverb

Craft 1: Creating the Earth!



Supplies:

- Paper plate
- Blue paint
- Green crepe paper (tissue paper or construction paper will work as well)
- White construction paper
- Black marker
- Googly eyes
- Scissors
- Glue

Instructions:

Paint a or color a paper plate blue to represent the oceans.
Cut or tear some green sections to represent the land masses.
Cut 4 strips of white paper and fold them with accordion folds.
Glue arms and legs onto the paper plate.
Draw a face.

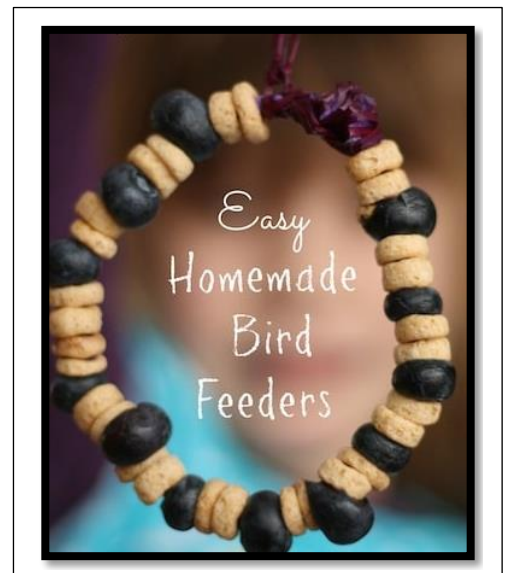
Craft 2: Home Made Bird Feeder

Supplies Needed:

- Cheerios
- Blueberries
- Pipe cleaner

To encourage fine motor skills and patterning.

After assembly, hang on a branch or porch so you can observe the Spring birds! See if you can name the type of bird who comes to eat this special treat. Enjoy!



Cooking Lesson 1:

EARTH DAY SNACK

What you will need:

Blueberries
Green grapes cut in half
1 package of cream cheese
1 tsp vanilla
1 Tb sugar
Rice cakes



This is a simple recipe that you and your child can make together, while learning about the planet Earth at the same time! Explain to your child that Earth is made mostly of water (blueberries), and the rest is land (grapes). Show your child a globe or pictures of our amazing planet!

1. Have your child cut the grapes (and blueberries if desired) in half. This is a great time to teach your child knife skills.
2. In a small bowl, mix the softened cream cheese with 1 teaspoon of vanilla and 1 tablespoon of sugar. Again, this a learning opportunity for your child to use measuring spoons!
3. Have your child spread the cream cheese mixture on the rice cake, which will be Earth.
4. Have your child decorate the rice cake with blueberries and grapes, making oceans and land.

Enjoy!!!

Science Fun: Creating the Water Cycle



Supplies:

- Supplies:
- Ziploc sandwich bag
- Black sharpie
- Blue food coloring
- Water
- Tape

Creating a Water Cycle Directions:

Grab a Ziploc sandwich bag from the pantry and use a black Sharpie to draw a sun, cloud and water.

Fill a measuring cup with 1/4 cup of water.

Squeeze four big drops of blue food coloring into the water.

Slowly pour the now blue water into the Ziploc bag.

Zip the bag shut securely. Make sure it is closed tight.

Use tape to hang the bag on the window and then sit back and watch it work over time.

The Science behind the Water Cycle

Since the Earth has a limited amount of water, it has to change around and around in something called the water cycle.

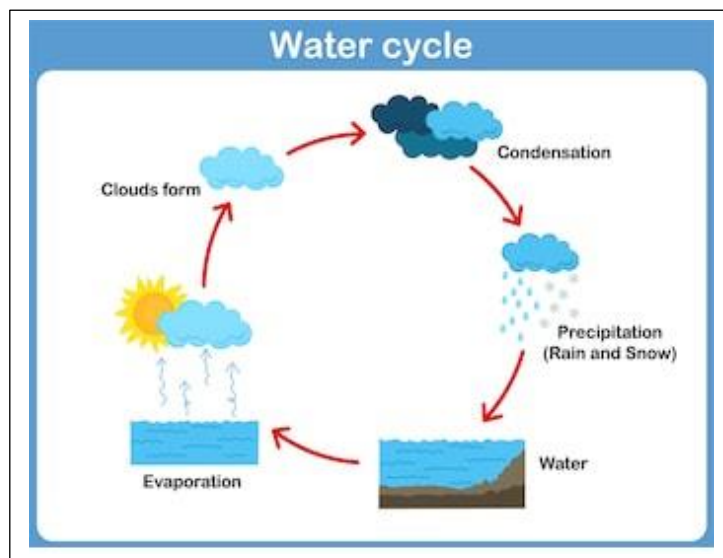
Over the next few days, you should see the water warm in the sunlight and **evaporate** into vapor.

As that vapor cools, it begins changing back into liquid **{condensing}** just like a cloud.

And when enough water has condensed, the air can't hold it anymore and the water falls down in the form of **precipitation**.

In the real water cycle, rain, sleet or snow might land in a body of water like a river or ocean. But it also might fall on dirt where it soaks into the soil and either becomes ground water that animals and plants drink or it runs over the soil and falls into rivers, oceans or lakes {aka **collection**}.

<https://www.playdoughtoplato.com/water-cycle-bag/>

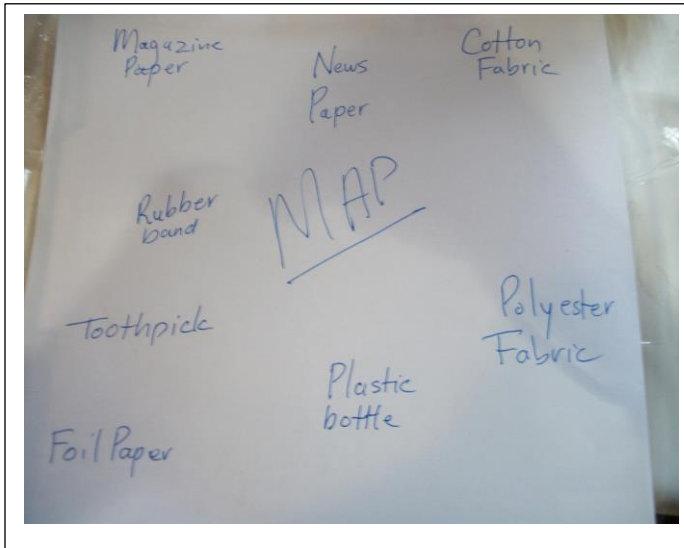


Science Activity: Decomposable Experiment



Supplies:

- A large recycled aluminum or plastic pan
- Soil
- Water
- Sample waste items – a toothpick, tin can lid, piece of aluminum foil, a piece of plastic bottle, a piece of a magazine page, a piece of a newspaper page, a piece of cotton fabric, a piece of polyester fabric, a rubber band.
- Paper and a pencil



Directions:

1. Invite your child to fill the pan with about one to two inches of soil.
2. Together, place the samples of solid waste on top of the soil. Use small pieces of everything.
3. With the paper and pencil make a “map” of where your samples are placed on the soil.
4. Cover the items with another layer of soil about the same thickness as the first.
5. Sprinkle enough water to wet the soil.
6. Here’s the hard part – wait for about two weeks, making sure that a little bit of water is sprinkled on the soil each day so the soil stays moist.
7. At the end of two weeks, working together, carefully remove the top layer of soil. Try not to disturb your sample items.
8. Check the sample items. Record which items have started to break down and which ones look the same.
9. You can then cover the items again and look again two weeks later.

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Blessing and Songs:

Blessing

O GOD,
we thank you for this earth,
our home;
for the wide sky and the blessed sun,
for the ocean and streams,
for the towering hills
and the whispering wind,
for the trees and green grass.
Amen.

Earth Day Songs:

REDUCE REUSE RECYCLE SONG

Reduce, Reuse, Recycle Song for Kids by The Kiboomers
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AOvcW8l3RzE>

Reduce, Reuse, Recycle
It's very easy to do
It's simple to remember
Recycle what you use!

Separate glass and paper
Separate plastic and tin
Then put them their places
In the recycling bin!

Plastic with plastic
Paper with paper
Tin with tin
and glass with glass!

How to Care for the Earth Song

To the tune of "Here we go round the Mulberry Bush"

This is the way we pick up the trash
pick up the trash, pick up the trash

This is the way we pick up the trash
pick up the trash, pick up the trash

We take care of earth

This is the way we turn off the lights
turn off the lights, turn off the lights

This is the way we turn off the lights
turn off the lights, turn off the lights

We take care of earth

(turn off the water...)
(recycle our trash..)

Book Suggestions:

The Earth Day by Todd Parr

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aXnWUS_K0XQ

Biscuit's Earth Day Celebration by Alyssa Satin Capucilli

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DYft6Mb8Ae8>

How to Help the Earth by the Lorax, by Tish Rabe

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lbUS3jPjyc>

Once There was a Seed by Judith Anderson

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R-Bvdl_D8Qc

Little Seeds by Charles Ghinga

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2fyYJzsj3UY>

It's Earth Day by Mercer Mayer

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Pi8Kae6KRws>

Dr Seuss Hooray for Diffendoofer Day by Dr. Seuss

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Np4HBzm3s9s>

Compost Stew

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Xuu4bJ18aSE>

Dora Celebrates Earth Day Little Green Nickelodeon (Dora the Explorer)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4mFuxn2nIRA>

Fancy Nancy-Every Day is Earth Day by Jane O'Connor

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KBx8O7MkoPQ&t=28s>

Additional Activities:

Musical Activities:

From Little Hands Music – BHCNS' Music Providers

April 11 through April 17th was NAEYC's (The National Association for the Education of Young Children) Week of the Young Child...All the best for a great week from Little Hands Music!

Here are some videos to celebrate with!

[Making Musical Instruments at Home with Ms Debbie](#)

[The Story of the Sunshine Ship with Ms Caitlin](#) then you can sing this song about "[the wind blew the Sunshine all over town!](#)" and here's [this song about the Wind](#), too!

If you need a windy rocking song, here's a "[North Wind](#)" song. Enjoy this windy, musical Monday!

Ms. Caitlin, Ms. Jenete, and I want to be a support to you during this time. We've set up a private Facebook group called "Musical Moments" where we are posting daily music and movement videos, as well as other resources, live classes and more. Please join us! [Invite here.](#)

With virtual musical hugs from a safe social distance,
Ms. Beth, Ms. Caiti, and Ms. Jenete

Outdoor Activities:

From Montgomery County Resource and Referral Center:

1. Pick a special spot in your backyard, under or near a tree, by a beautiful flowering bush or a large rock that you can visit daily. Sit or stand in this spot and let your senses free. What smells or feelings do you experience? What do you notice and hear?
2. Go on a walk around your neighborhood, keeping social distance of course, and notice the changes taking place as spring rolls in. Have your children pick a special tree, rock, garden that you can pass by and greet each day. While you greet the object, do a few rounds of deep breathing – let children count to five slowly while everybody inhales and then exhale with vocalization.
3. Do yoga outside. Take some towels or mats out and let the children choose an animal that you then do a pose to. There are many kid yoga websites, but here's one to try <https://mothernatured.com/animal-play/animal-yoga-for-kids/>
4. On a pleasant day, bring some old blankets outside and have a picnic, then lie back and enjoy the weather. Look at the clouds and identify shapes or images in the clouds.
5. Plant a container garden and watch it grow or let children just have fun digging in the dirt.
6. If you are lucky enough to have a climbing tree, climb up to a low branch and sit for a bit. Notice how different everything looks from this new perspective.

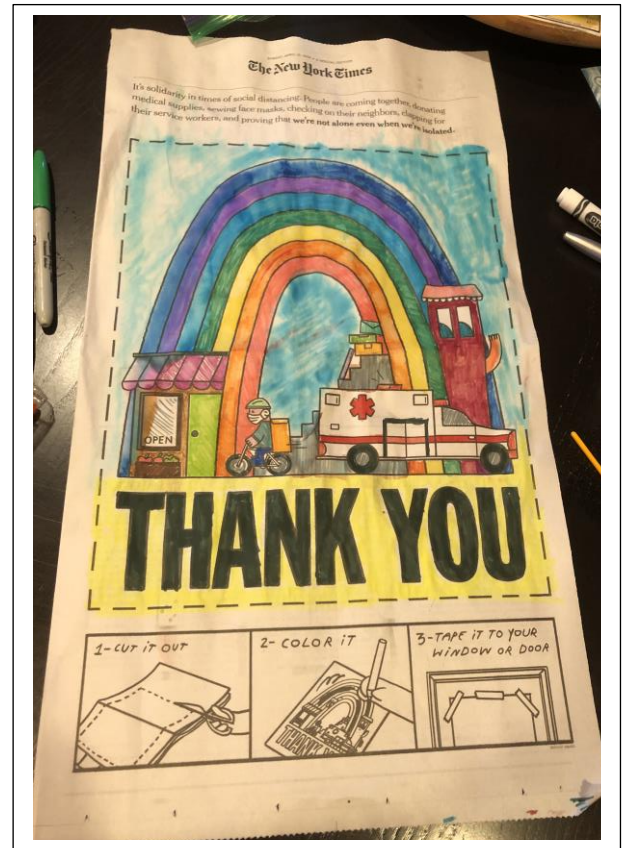
From BHP CNS

- Dig up earthworms and look at them with a magnifying glass (please put them back in the earth)
- Dig up bugs and look at them (please put them back in the earth)
- Eat herbs for snack
- Sort recycling at home
- Plant seedlings or seeds

NY Times:

This weekend the New York Times had a coloring page to show your appreciation to all the workers who are doing their jobs to help us stay healthy.

Color the attached page and put in your house window to let everyone know you are grateful.



There are lots of story books, chicks hatching, Spanish and Yoga lessons, nature walks, what's a worm, and more on BHP CNS YouTube Channel:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCLw9EC3Qxv9sG6ySuivSSGA?view_as=subscriber