

E. Hale Curran Earth Day Challenge

We are going to celebrate Earth Day with a challenge. The following six items will help us to honor our precious earth. Invite your friends and family to take the Earth Day challenge and compare your scores. Submit your score sheet to the office and the highest scores will be rewarded with a special Earth Day prize.

1. **Become 3R fluent. Reduce, Reuse, Recycle!** Reducing is the best (fewer resources, less waste), then reusing, followed by recycling, which often uses water, energy and other resources (although it's still far better than not recycling at all!).

The Challenge: Score 1 Earth Day point for each "R" choice you make today.

2. **Drive less.** Carbon emissions are one of the leading causes of global warming. So, in honor of Earth Day, even if you own a hybrid, how about leaving the car at home?

The Challenge: Score 1 Earth Day point each time you choose alternative transportation today. Some great options include: walking, bike riding, taking the bus and carpooling.

3. **Unplug.** You're living with vampires: your toaster, your TV, even your-oh-so-cute iPod charger. Your appliances suck energy, and they're draining your bank account of up to \$200 a year – even when they're off.

The Challenge: Free your home from energy vampires and score 1 Earth Day point by unplugging everything that isn't used on a continuous basis.

4. **Conserve water.** Water may appear to be endlessly abundant, but the truth is that fresh water shortages are occurring at alarming rates.

The Challenge: Score 1 points each time you perform one of these actions today: shower instead of bathe; keep the faucet off while brushing your teeth or shaving; water gardens in the morning.

5. **Waste Free Lunch.** During snack and lunch times, schools collect tons of garbage from product packaging. This garbage fills our landfill. Do you think you could have a waste free lunch?

The Challenge: Score 1 Earth Day point for each reusable item you use during lunch and snack today.

6. **Have Fun.** Our earth provides us with endless opportunities. Explore the outdoors, build a solar oven, plant a garden, create nonrecyclable art, play a family game of Earth charades, take in a beautiful sunset, check out the evening moon and stars.

The Challenge: Score 1 Earth Day point each time you have fun with our earth.

Earth Day Challenge Score Sheet

Directions: Each square below equals one Earth Day Point. Each time you earn an Earth Day point from the challenges color in a square.

Become 3R fluent - Reduce, Reuse, Recycle

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Drive Less

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Unplug

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Conserve Water

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Waste Free Lunch and Snack

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Enjoy our Earth

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How did you measure up? Total your Earth Day score and find your shade of green.

20 and above: Deep Green

Wow! The rest of us are "green" with envy at your eco-cred!

10 - 20: Sage Green

Nice job! We can tell you're "in the know" when it comes to green living.

5 - 10: Minty Green

Great effort! You went the distance for Mother Earth today.