# Earth Week Lesson Plan (K-1st)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AM Academic Time</th>
<th>Creative Time</th>
<th>PM Academic Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Monday</strong> (Reading/Math)</td>
<td>Play several rounds of Earth Day Spin and Add or Spin and Subtract Activity in Supplemental Materials</td>
<td><strong>Tuesday</strong> (Social Studies)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Creative Time</strong></td>
<td>The Earth is a Lot of Water</td>
<td>Create a reminder to turn off water when not in use by using recycled materials to create a toothbrush holder</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>PM Academic Time</strong></td>
<td>Use Earth template in the Supplemental Materials and Google an image of the Earth.</td>
<td>Complete Scholastic Day 15: Earth Science-Recycling and Trash Lesson <a href="https://classroommagazines.scholastic.com/support/learnathome/grades-1-2-week-3.html">https://classroommagazines.scholastic.com/support/learnathome/grades-1-2-week-3.html</a></td>
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</tbody>
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Earth Day Spin and Add Name

Use a paperclip and a pencil to spin each Earth spinner. Add the numbers together (use the number line if needed) and color an Earth with the sum.
Earth Day Spin and Subtract

Use a paperclip and a pencil to spin each Earth spinner. Subtract the second spin from the first (use the number line if needed) and color an Earth with the total.
Follow That Trash
Color the Continents
Use the key to color in the map.

South America – PINK
Antarctica – ORANGE
North America – GREEN
Australia – BROWN
Asia – RED
Africa – YELLOW
Europe – PURPLE
Oceans – BLUE

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Conserving Water through Art!
Ashley Schopieray

INTRODUCTION

In this lesson, students will learn about the scarcity of water and begin to think of ways that they can conserve water in their own homes. They will make a pledge to personally use less water, and will use their creativity to make items that will remind them to conserve in their home.

LESSON OVERVIEW

Grade Level and Subject: K-4: Art and Social Studies

Length: One class period (45 minutes- 1 hour)

Objectives:
After completing this lesson students will be able to:
- Understand the scarcity of water
- Give examples of ways to conserve water
- Apply their knowledge in a creative way through art

National Standards Addressed:
This lesson addresses the following National Education Standards1:
- **Content Standard: NA-VA.K-4.1 UNDERSTANDING AND APPLYING MEDIA, TECHNIQUES, AND PROCESSES**
  - Students know the differences between materials, techniques, and processes
  - Students describe how different materials, techniques, and processes cause different responses
  - Students use different media, techniques, and processes to communicate ideas, experiences, and stories
  - Students use art materials and tools in a safe and responsible manner

- **Content Standard: NA-VA.K-4.6 MAKING CONNECTIONS BETWEEN VISUAL ARTS AND OTHER DISCIPLINES**
  - Students understand and use similarities and differences between characteristics of the visual arts and other arts disciplines
  - Students identify connections between the visual arts and other disciplines in the curriculum

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Content Standard: **NSS-G.K-12.5 ENVIRONMENT AND SOCIETY**
As a result of activities in grades K-12, all students should
- Understand how physical systems affect human systems.
- Understand the changes that occur in the meaning, use, distribution, and importance of resources.
- Understand how human actions modify the physical environment.

**Materials Needed:**
- Chalkboard, whiteboard or equivalent
- **Reproducible #1- How Much of Earth’s Water Can We Use?**
- 1 clean jar or container for each student (glass, plastic, other)
- Craft items to decorate the jars (i.e. felt, puffy paint, stickers, glitter, pipe cleaners, paper, etc.)
- Glue
- Large paper banner
- Markers, paint, or paper to make hand-prints with
- Chalkboard or equivalent

**Assessment:**
Students will be assessed through the following activities:
- Participation and attentiveness
- Completion of their craft

**LESSON BACKGROUND**

**Relevant Vocabulary:**
- **Conservation:** Preservation and protection of materials or resources
- **Scarcity:** Deficient amount of something to meet the demands; not plentiful or abundant

**Information:**
Water is one of earth’s most valuable resources, and one of its most scarce. Out of the earth’s total supply of water, 97% is salt water and only 3% is fresh water. Furthermore, the amount of fresh water trapped in glaciers and icecaps is 2.2%, leaving only 0.8% of the earth’s total water available for everyday human use.

The water that is available for humans needs to be shared by everyone in the world, and therefore it is important not to waste it. Many areas in the world do not have access to safe, clean drinking water like we do, making the United States a pretty lucky place to live! Simple steps such as turning off the faucet and taking shorter showers can help to conserve the amount of water we use, so that we do not waste such a precious resource.

**Resources:**

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Information on water all across the world:

LESSON STEPS

Warm-up: How much water do you use a day?
1. Begin by discussing with students how they use water in their daily lives. Have them list the things that they use water for and write them on the board as they are mentioned (wash hands, brush teeth, water the plants, take a shower, do the dishes, drink water, flush toilet, do laundry, fill fish tank, water lawn, cooking, cleaning, etc.).

2. Also ask students to name other places besides their home where water is used. Have them think about how they are connected to those places (i.e. farmers: water crops and animals for their food, food plants use it to create energy, sanitation plants use it to create clean tap water, factories use water manufacturing and cooling, etc.)

Activity One: Discovering the Scarcity of Water
1. Use the pie chart in Reproducible #1- How Much of Earth’s Water Can We Use? to explain to students how little of Earth’s water is available for human use. (97% is salt water, 2% is fresh water trapped in glaciers and less than 1% is available fresh water). Use a projector, or print at least one copy per table so everyone can see.

2. Talk with students about the importance of conserving water since the entire world needs to share the small amount available. Emphasize that it is important not to waste water because there is a limited amount available and we do not want to run out.

Activity Two: Making a Group Pledge
1. Have a discussion with students about what they can do to conserve water. Brainstorm in general, or refer to the water uses listed previously on the board and try to think of one way to reduce for each use (turn off the faucet while brushing teeth, water plants with water left over from cooking, take shorter showers or take baths instead of showers, etc.).

2. Using the large paper banner, have students think of a pledge that they all want to make together concerning their water use. This could be very broad such as, “We pledge to use less water at home and school,” or it could be specific such as, “We pledge to turn off the water when we brush our teeth.” Write the pledge in the center of the banner.

3. Have each student either trace, paint, or cut out and paste a copy of their hand and have them write or sign their name on/next to their handprints on the pledge banner. Hang it in the hallway so other classrooms can see and learn from it.

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Activity Three: Creating a Personal Reminder

1. Pass out a jar to each student and place all craft materials out for them to use.

2. Explain that the jar will be used as a toothbrush holder to be placed next to the sink as an everyday reminder to turn off the water when not in use. Have them decorate the jar with the craft materials, focusing on water as their inspiration. They should create something that will remind them to turn off the faucet when not in use.

Wrap-Up: Discussion

1. To test students’ understanding, ask them why water is so scarce and why it is important to conserve it. Discuss with them ways that they are going to go home that night and use less water. Also encourage them to share their ideas with their family members and to show them their new toothbrush holder.

Extension: Spreading the Word

As an extension activity, have students create posters about water conservation that encourage other students not to waste and place them around the school (in other classrooms, in the bathroom, in the cafeteria, near the drinking fountains, etc.). They can also visit other classrooms and encourage them to make a pledge banner like they did, hanging it up in the hallway for everyone to see.

CONCLUSION

Through the use of creativity and art, students will learn about the scarcity of water and why it is important to conserve, and will remind themselves to do this at home. They will also learn how they can conserve water in their own homes and encourage others to do the same.
How Much of Earth’s Water Can We Use?

97% Salt Water

1% Fresh Water

2% Ice

I Can Help

I can help the earth by ________________________________.
Earth Day

Write down the page numbers in your mini-book.

Number Fun!
Earth Day Facts

The first Earth Day was celebrated in 1970.

Earth Day is on April 22nd every year.

It is important to reduce, reuse, and recycle.

Earth Day Maze

Help collect all of the trash!
Finish the Sentence

My favorite game to play outside is

I like to play outside with

My family always recycles

I love the Earth because

Fold

Acrostic Poem

Write a word or phrase that begins with the letter on the line.

E

A

R

T

H

Fold

Staple

Staple

Page
Even Odd Color

Name: ______________

Color by number! Color the pictures using the code:

Even numbers—blue
Odd numbers—green
Reproducible #1- Healthy Earth, Sick Earth

Cut Pages in half and use during Activity three: What Makes the Earth Either Healthy or Sick?

Recycling your old Newspapers, plastic bottles, and glass
Turning off lights when not in use

Using the sun’s heat to create energy for your home or school
Carpooling to save fuel

THINKING GREEN!
Using Less Paper

Planting Trees
Riding your bike or walking to places nearby

Turning off the water when you are not using the sink
Rising Temperatures

Melting ice caps
Severe Weather

Littering
Pollution

Cutting down trees
Leaving the computer on when you are **not** using it

Throwing something out that can be reused for something else
Hanging Instructions:

Cut this page on the dotted line and use it as the title for your "Circle of Seasons" wall display. Hang the 5 pieces on your wall like this:
winter
spring

March

April

May
summer
autumn
Color By Number

1 = green  
2 = brown  
3 = skin  
4 = blue  
5 = yellow  
6 = pink  
7 = red  
8 = orange

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