

# HAPPENINGS

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Watch the unending activity of the flowing stream or the growing tree. See the breakers of the ocean, the unceasing movements of the earth, the planets, the sun and the stars. All creation is life, movement, work.

*Maria Montessori*

## Raising Earth-Friendly Children

In their own day-to-day activities, encourage kids to find ways to limit waste, cut down on electricity, avoid unnecessary purchases, and reuse items that they already have. Here's how:

**Conserve energy.** Remind kids to turn off lights when they're not in use, power down computers, turn off the TV when nobody's watching, and resist lingering in front of the refrigerator with the door open.

**Let there be (more) light.** Older kids can help replace regular light bulbs with energy-efficient ones. Compact fluorescent light bulbs provide about the same light output as incandescent bulbs, but last much longer and use a fraction of the energy.

**Reuse and recharge.** Buy rechargeable batteries for your kids' electronics and toys and teach them how to care for and recharge them. This reduces garbage and keeps toxic metals, like mercury, out of landfills.

**Pass it on.** Ask kids to gather toys, books, clothes, and other goods that they no longer use or want for donation to local charities. Have them ride along for the drop-off so they can see how groups such as Goodwill use donations to help others.

These tips are just some ways to get your family to become more earth-friendly. Once you get everyone on board with conservation, challenge your kids to come up with new and interesting ways of going green.

## Classroom Happenings:

**Toddlers:** In the month of April our students learned not only the changes in the temperatures but also the April-showers that wet the soil for the trees and plants to grow and for the flowers to bloom. The students learned names of many different flowers and bugs and looked at pictures. They planted Hyacinth seeds and watched them grow in little containers they even helped in watching the plants. Easter-Egg Hunt being the highlight of the month. Students helped in decorating the Easter-Egg bags. They were very excited to hunt for the eggs and fill in their bags.



**Primary1:** The class showed curiosity as we discussed the different species of Birds and their specific characteristics. The students learned the fact that the world has 9,000 different kinds of birds and what makes them unlike from other animals. They made Heart Bird paper craft. Moving on the next topic we talked about the history of kites and how the wind makes them fly. We also made a colorful "Kitty Kites" that the kids took home as a keepsake.

## Classroom Happenings:

In celebration of Easter, the children had an "Egg Hunt" in the playground. The game became even more exciting when they received a cute bag designed with Easter chick craft. This week we will talk about how we can play a part in preserving the Environment by Recycling. The students will collect clean trash for several days and will make a "Recycle Poster" They will also learn a game by miming a specific act to maintain Mother Nature. Next week we will continue celebrating the Earth Day by bringing out our artistic side on decorating our classroom with flowers, trees, plants and animals to make it look like a forest.



**Primary 2:** Birds are colorful and they are special because they have wings and they can fly. We did the bird project, the children glued real feather on their birds. Kites fascinated and amazed the kids. We made our own kites then we flew them outside at the playground. It was so much fun! Egg hunting is the most exciting part of Easter for our little ones. They got to hunt eggs at the playground, plant boxes and in the sandbox. They had a blast opening their surprise eggs with all goodies inside. We decorated our room like a jungle or a rainforest. Each week we did some animal project like snakes and butterflies. We hang their projects as added decoration for our Earth day theme. We discuss how to take care of mother Earth and all the living things.



**Primary 3:** Come out and play Mother Nature! I found some helicopter seeds that blew over my fence and into my backyard patio. I could not see any close trees and I know they traveled by wind. I set up a work in the classroom that the children could explore throwing them into the air and watching them twirl like helicopters as they slowing spin to the ground such a fun way to get some gross motor skills development. The children also forgot to take home a helicopter seed to play with. The whole class made foam snakes by blowing air through our homemade bubble device called a "foamerator".



We recycle liquor cylinder containers and cigar boxes!