

HAPPENINGS

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"We discovered that education is not something which the teacher does, but that it is a natural process which develops spontaneously in the human being" - Maria Montessori

10 Simple things you can do to help protect the EARTH! - World Wildlife Fund

1. **Put on a sweater.** Remember, when you turn up the heat in wintertime, your furnace is probably burning fossil fuels. A sweater or a nice warm robe will keep you even warmer and will help conserve resources and reduce climate change.
2. **Put one foot in front of the other.** One hundred year ago, 99.9% of people got by without cars. They took the train, they lived near their workplaces... and they walked. Using fuel-efficient cars is important, but we can save even more fuel simply by driving less.
3. **Go for seconds.** Recycling doesn't mean only separating your cans and bottles. It can mean using things a second (or a third) time. That nice padded envelope you got in the mail, for example? Instead of throwing it away, scratch out the address, tear off the stamps and use it again.
4. **Watch your waste.** Items you may be throwing away can contaminate the soil and water for thousands or millions of years. Your community probably has special disposal procedures for things like used oil and batteries. Ink cartridges can probably be recycled where you bought them. And many of the new super-efficient light bulbs contain mercury, so proper disposal is crucial. Check with the store where you buy them.
5. **Paper nor plastic.** Bring your bags with you! By taking reusable bags to the grocery store, you can cut down on the 350 bags the average American uses each year and reduce needless deaths of marine life caused by plastic bags that end up in streams, rivers and oceans.
6. **BYOB.** Last year Americans went through about 50 billion plastic water bottles. Fill up a reusable water bottle at home and bring it with you. Don't like the taste of your tap water? Buy a filter! (Remember, much of the bottled water sold today is filtered tap water anyway...)
7. **Flip 'em off.** In much of America we can't even see the stars anymore, due in part to all the electric lights. Keep the light on in the room you're in, but keep the rest of your house dark. You'll find the dark is soothing.
8. **Get in touch with your roots Plant a tree!** Good for the soil, good for the birds, good for reducing climate change - and good for the air you're breathing!
9. **Get off.** Catalogs are great when they're from companies you like to order from. But if you're getting catalogs from companies you don't buy from, call them and tell them to get you off their list - and that's an order.
10. **Support WWF.** We're working to protect endangered and threatened species and preserve their habitats. Time is running out for many of the animals you love. We must act urgently, and support is crucial to our efforts.

Classroom Happenings:

Toddlers: In February the class learned about opposites. Children had fun and were very excited about their Valentine's Day exchange cards. The children learned the shape of a heart. We talked about love and how children should learn to love their parents and how much parents love them in return.

Primary 1: The students were astonished as they watched a video, showcasing our breath taking solar system. The class had a blast celebrating Valentine's Day by giving each other card. The children were inspired by the amazing images and accomplishments of the past and present Presidents of the United States. The class elected Olivia Valek as the class President and David Hogan as Vice President. Olivia said if I become the President "I will give food to the poor", and David said "I will share my toys with other children".



Primary 2: The class had interesting week learning about space. The sun is the center of our solar system and around it revolves 8 planets. Earth is a very special planet because it's the planet where we live, and read lots of books. The students had fun sharing and giving out Valentine's Day cards and goodies. They also made cards for moms and dads. The children voted their classroom President and Vice President. Andrew Wright and Lucas won the vote. The class also talked about the amazing presidents of U.S.A. and talked about the good values that made them great leaders.

Classroom Happenings Cont...



Primary 3: With Spring approaching the class planted some dandelion herb seeds. Dandelions are actually an herb that has healing properties. The class is learning how to identify a dandelion plant, flower and seed. They are observing a dandelion plant and hoping it will put out a flower soon. The class watched a video on how the bud opens to show a flower head full of seed parachutes. The white fuzzies are called pappi from the Latin Pappus meaning "old man". The students like to call it "the little old lady". Dandelions are thought to bring luck. It is said that if a bride uses dandelions in her bridal bouquet then her marriage will have good luck. Ms. Kim has always had fond childhood memories of dandelions. She wants her classroom to have magical experiences of how quickly dandelions turn into seed balls to be blown away with delightful wishes. The class learned about who our President is and where is lives. What kind of a person should our President be? The class had an election, and Ethan Haller was elected President and Alina Pro was elected Vice President. Ethan said he will help people that are being chased, and Alina said when people are sick she would visit them in the hospital.

