



NEWS

A Kids for Saving Earth News **E**xtra

Become a KSE Earth Inspector

You Are the Pollution Solution

There are lots of ways you can help protect the Earth. The easiest way is to begin right in your home: Turn off the lights and TV when you aren't using them. This conserves energy and saves you money! Take shorter showers so you don't waste water. Walk, bike, or carpool when you can so your car won't cause as much pollution.



Talking Trash

We all create way too much trash. It is filling up our landfills (garbage dumps). So let's make less trash. You can do this by recycling, composting, buying reusable items and products that are more concentrated and have less packaging.

Water and Soil

Some of the water and soil on our planet isn't very healthy right now. We pour chemicals down our drains and spray pesticides on our lawns and gardens. These chemicals can end up in our water and food supplies. So let's stop using these chemicals. We really don't need all of them. Look for cleaning products and lawn care products that will not hurt the Earth.



Buying Green

"Buying Green" means looking for products that are made out of recycled materials, are reusable, can be easily recycled, use less packaging and are concentrated so you use less each time. It also means choosing household and yard care products that do not contain harsh chemicals.

Products that are "green" are as safe for the Earth as possible! There are lots of household products available that won't harm the Earth. Become an Earth Inspector and find them!



So What is Hazardous Waste?????

It's garbage that can make the air we breathe, the water we drink, and the land unsafe. We don't know everything about how dangerous certain garbage may be, but we know a lot, and we're learning more every day. When you take your Earth Inspector Tour, look for warning words on containers like warning, poison, caustic, corrosive, danger or flammable. These products may contain hazardous substances or chemicals that aren't good for you or the Earth. Call your city hall to ask them when you can get rid of this kind of waste. Try not to buy anymore. When you must use them, use them up or dispose of them and their containers properly.



Some Common Hazardous Substances

Bleach, caustic drain cleaners, glass cleaners, household ammonia, oven cleaners, batteries, oil filters, motor oil, oil based paints, turpentine, gasoline, epoxy glues, fluorescent lights, bug killers.

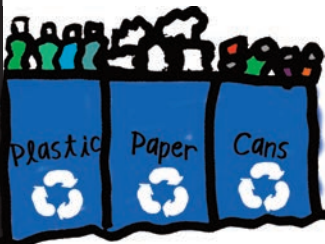
Look for Good Earth Words and Signs!

There are probably lots of products in your home that are not so bad for the Earth. Look for words like **biodegradable, does not contain phosphates, does not contain nitrates, made from recycled materials, post-consumer, recycled materials, concentrated or the recyclable sign.**



Stuff You Can Recycle

You can easily recycle newspapers, glass, aluminum and tin cans, and other metal as long as it is separated- for example, copper and steel. Most communities also recycle plastics, junk mail, office and school paper. Some even recycle juice boxes. Many grocery stores have a collection bin for plastic bags and styrofoam. If your grocery store doesn't do this, write letters to the manager and ask why not. Call city Hall to find out more about recycling in your area.



Consider Composting

Organic garbage is garbage from plant materials like leaves, grass, plants or even leftovers from the kitchen, such as apple cores or potato peels. It is NOT animal or milk products. Investigate the best ways to collect this organic garbage for composting. Once you have a compost pile started, add a little water every few weeks and mix it all up. You'll soon have a mound of rich soil you can use to help plants grow.



Inspecting #30 Pollution Place

Before you and an adult inspect your own home, check out #30 Pollution Place on the next page. Locate and circle all the items that may create problems for the Earth. Try to circle all 30 problems.



Earn a "Defender of the Planet" Award for Becoming an Earth Inspector (You can give to your parent too!)

You will receive a "Defender of the Planet" Award for taking an Earth Inspection Tour. You have taken an adult though, because you need to teach them all you have learned. You must have the adult sign your Earth Inspector's Check List.