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# Green Shopping Can Cool the Earth...

#### and products that aren't green can heat and hurt the Earth.

The word "green" is now often used to mean protecting our Earth. So if you are a "green" shopper, you are buying items that are good for the Earth. Watch out though; some companies call things green when they are not. It's called "Greenwashing" Learn more!

Products that are not green are often those using a lot of energy. As you know, when you burn too much energy it creates carbon dioxide  $(CO_2)$ , which is captured in Earth's atmosphere and acts like a blanket to warm Earth. When it warms too much it causes <u>global warming</u>.

Buy

For example, gas-guzzling cars and trucks or incandescent light bulbs (the old style) aren't green. They use too much energy! Sometimes it takes too much energy and materials to create certain products. Often these products, like bottled water or foam plates and cups, aren't really needed. Products that cause thousands of acres of forests to be cut down for wood or farming can be bad for Earth. For instance, when rainforests are cut down to use the land for cattle ranching, the soil often dries out and cannot be used for grazing. A rainforest has just been wasted.

### What can a kid do?

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Earth!

Kids don't buy cars or trucks but they can encourage parents to learn more about good choices for Earth. There are some simple things <u>kids can do</u> to limit their use of products which aren't green. Here is a start. Kids can stop using lunch bags which aren't reusable, plastic or foam plates and utensils, paper napkins, throw-away water bottles, products which have lots of packaging, plastic bags, gift wrapping paper, and paper which isn't made out of recycled product.







When we shop for green products we use less energy and that creates less CO<sub>2</sub>. This means there is less global warming. However, green products help in other ways too. They create less trash and use less polluting and dangerous chemicals. It means that less trash and poisons will go into our rivers, lakes and oceans. Buying green means our air will be healthier and we will be healthier too.

Every time we can shop green it helps slow global warming and makes our Earth healthier.

## "Green Shopping" Ideas



Don't buy throw-away water bottles. Buy reuseable water bottles like KSE's



Use cloth napkins instead of paper napkins.

Talk to adults about buying cars which use less gasoline like hybrid or electric cars.



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Resources

Shop in places offering green products like flea markets that sell products which have been used before. Buy organic products which are safer for the Earth and you. What you eat can <u>increase or decrease global warming.</u>

Let's celebrate birthdays by having <u>green birthday</u> <u>parties.</u> That way we can enjoy a good time but know that we are working to protect Earth.

**K**Or let's <u>shop green</u> any holiday!

Shop at the KSE Green Shop

Ask your teacher or your principal to have a school

> <u>"Green Day".</u> Learn about many ways we can cool Earth.



## Resources used in this KSE educational piece.

#### What you eat can increase global warming

https://www.nrdc.org/globalWarming/files/eatgreenfs\_feb2010.pdf

Shop till you stop global warming

http://www.independent.co.uk/environment/shop-till-you-stop-global-warming-2186888.html

100 ways to use less energy https://www.progress-energy.com/carolinas/home/save-energy-money/energy-saving-tips-calculators/100-tips.page

Bye bye Throw-away Bottles http://www.kidsforsavingearth.org/pdfs/BottledWaterPoster.pdf

What 's global warming? Kids for Saving Earth <u>http://www.kidsforsavingearth.org/Projects%20for%20KSE/Global%20Warming%2</u> <u>OEducational%20FINAL.pdf</u>

Shop at our Kids for Saving Earth Green Shop <a href="http://www.ksegreenshop.org/">http://www.ksegreenshop.org/</a>