



Leave a green footprint!

16 things kids can do to help care for the earth

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The earth is an amazing and beautiful place.

All its riches will last, so long as we learn to use only what we need.

How can we best use the earth's gifts?

1. We can appreciate our food, and try not to waste it.
2. We can take care of our toys and games and share them when we are done with them.
3. We can wrap presents with the Sunday news comics to reduce the number of trees cut for paper.
4. We can visit local parks and wildlife preserves to learn how to enjoy and protect our environment.

Water is precious to all God's creatures.

It keeps the earth cool and moist.

We all need water to survive.

How can we make our water supply last?

1. We can turn off faucets so they don't drip.
2. We can take shorter showers – and baths with less water – and still get very clean.
3. We can save water when we brush our teeth – by turning it off until we need to rinse.
4. We can take good care of our clothes so they don't need to be washed so often.

We live in a time of great blessings.

Human inventions make our lives very comfortable, yet these depend on limited energy sources.

How can we use energy wisely?

1. We can turn off: games, computers, lights, TV's, stereos, and other appliances when we're not using them.
2. We can close doors behind us, so we don't let out the heat in winter or air conditioning in summer.
3. We can share rides to shopping, movies, and other places to reduce gas use and pollution.
4. We can play outside when the weather is nice to reduce electricity use.

Nature has its own way of keeping the earth tidy, but nature can not pick up after people.

We can help keep things clean and healthy.

How can we help take care of the earth?

1. We can start at home: doing chores, cleaning, and picking up our own things.
2. We can recycle cans, plastic, paper, and cardboard.
3. We can hold on tight to our plastic bags, balloons, toys, and other stuff outside, so they do not end up in trees or streams.
4. We can help pick up other people's trash in our neighborhoods and parks.

Dear God,

Help us to live gently on the earth.

Teach us to care for all your gifts,
using only what we really must,
so there will be plenty for all creatures.

Help us to leave the earth better than we found it.

Amen