

Earth Day Showcase



Showcasing student learning through Earth
Day topics

Showcase Overview

Learn about climate topics through research.

Ask yourself:

Why is this topic important?

How can we make positive changes?

What can I do in my community



Showcase Topics to Explore



Topic 1: All About Plastics



Topic 2: All About Fast Fashion



Topic 3: All About Renewable Energy



Topic 4: All About Foodprints



Step 1: Pick A Topic



After reading the fact sheets, pick a topic you want to do more research on.

Grades K-5 THE FACTS ABOUT PLASTIC 

WHAT IS PLASTIC?

- **Plastic** is a material created by humans.

Question: what are some examples of things you use made of plastic?

SINGLE-USE PLASTICS 

- **Single-use plastics** are made to be used 1 time then thrown away.

Question: Where do you normally put plastic once you are done with it?

- Most plastic that has ever been made still sits in **landfills**.

PLASTIC IN THE OCEAN 

- By 2050 there will be more plastic in the oceans than there are fish!
- Animals are now living in the **Great Pacific Garbage Patch** meaning that they are consuming the plastic **waste**.

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Grades K-5 THE FACTS ABOUT FAST FASHION 

WHAT IS FAST FASHION?

- Clothing made of **non recyclable** materials.

WHAT ARE CLOTHES MADE OF?

- Clothes are made of materials like **polyester, cotton, and wool**.
- Certain materials like **polyester** are bad for the environment because they are not recyclable. They are made with **oil** which is a **non renewable resource**.


WHERE DO OLD CLOTHES END UP?

- Most old clothes end up in landfills or dumps.
- It causes a lot of waste.

WHAT CAN WE DO?

- Donate clothing instead of throwing it away
- Look at labels or tags for what types of fabrics are used.

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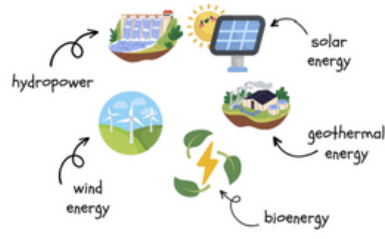
Grades K-5 THE FACTS ABOUT RENEWABLE ENERGY 

WHAT IS A RENEWABLE RESOURCE?

- **Naturally** replenished resources, such as the sun, tides, and wind.


WHAT IS RENEWABLE ENERGY?

- When renewable resources are used as renewable energy for **electricity**.



EXAMPLES OF RENEWABLE ENERGY

- wind turbines - uses wind
- solar panels - uses the heat from the sun

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Grades K-5 THE FACTS ABOUT FOODPRINTS 

WHAT IS A FOOTPRINT?

Think about:

- **How** you get your food. Food comes from many different places.
- **What** you eat.

WHERE DOES OUR FOOD COME FROM?

Production - How food is grown or made.

Consumption - Where do we get our food. Do you go to grocery store or market? What do you buy and eat?

WHAT HAPPENS TO UNUSED FOOD?

Food loss - food that spills, spoils or is lost before it reaches the **consumer**.

Food waste - food that is not consumed. Ex: Food that goes bad in your refrigerator and you throw it out.

trash bin compost bin

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Finding a Driving Question For Your Research

Initial Inquiry Question: This is a question you have about the topic that is applicable to your community.

Example:

How can we reduce plastic usage in the **cafeteria**?

Driving Question: creates a pathway to find a solution to your initial question.

Example:

What alternative utensils can we use to reduce the plastic usage in the cafeteria?



Solution focused



Beginning Research Steps

- Find background information

Fact Sheet on Your Topic

- Identify Key Words

- Online and Print Tools

Online journals and websites are great to search key words.

- Analyze Sources

Look through materials and find information that provides **evidence** for your solution



Developing a Solution

- What evidence do you have to support your solution?
- What is the scale of your solution? Small or big?
- How will you see your project through to the solution stage of implementation?
- What supports do you need?
- What are the steps in building your solution? What support do you need along the way?
- How long will it take to create your solution?

Building A Solution: Idea to Reality



- Sketch the idea
- Add details to the plan
- Add resources you need to make it happen
- Revise and add more details
- Feedback from peers and/or experts

Showcasing Solutions



Audience - Who will benefit from this solution and why.

How to Present Solutions - Who is the audience? How will you reach your audience?

