

## How to...



## **Take action for Earth Day**

### You can help make a difference in your community with a few meaningful steps.

Help pick out

arth Day, on April 22, is an opportunity to appreciate our natural world — and to bring attention to major challenges facing the planet. This year the theme is "Our Power, Our Planet." It is intended to raise awareness of sources of renewable energy (energy created by nature that does not run out), like solar and wind power. Here are simple ways you can get involved in Earth Day and encourage others to do the same.

#### **Attend an event**

On Earth Day, and in the days leading up to it, people will gather worldwide at special events. Options in your area may include a march or rally to raise awareness of climate change, attending a fashion show that features clothes made of recycled materials, or taking a nature walk. You can visit earthday.org/earth-day-2025 to view a map of events near you.

#### **Start at home**

A good way to make a positive impact on the environment is with simple changes to your daily routine. For example, you can reduce the amount of waste you produce by packing your school lunch in a reusable container. You can talk to your family about drinking from reusable bottles instead of buying disposable plastic ones. Repurpose

items like glass jars as vases or use them to store craft supplies. Also, recycle as many items as possible, like cans, milk jugs, papers, and cardboard boxes.

#### **Get planting**

One way your family can invest in the planet is to plant a tree. Trees help clean the air by absorbing carbon dioxide and releasing oxygen. With an adult's help, you can check with your local public works department

> to find out if they offer a tree planting program (some provide trees for free). You can also plant a vegetable garden or look into tending a community garden. Gardening provides not only fresh food but a greater connection with nature.

#### Advocate for change

plants to grow. Earth Day is a great time to speak up for changes to the ways people treat the planet. You can write to a local government official and ask them to support renewable energy efforts in your area, or contact your parks department about making local cleanups a regular part of the community schedule. You can also share with family and friends what you're planning to do in honor of Earth Day—which might inspire them, too. Make your commitment by filling out the form on the next page!

## **Protect pollinators**



Here are three ways to help bees, butterflies, and other pollinators.

**Grow native plants** Ask a local nursery about the best plants for your area. Plant a colorful garden in a yard or in containers outside.

Avoid poison sprays With your family, learn about pest control tactics that also hurt pollinators. Consider natural alternatives, like repelling mosquitoes with plants like basil and mint.

**Offer nesting sites Pollinators** favor particular spots for their nests or to lay eggs. For example, some bees dig in the ground to nest. Talk to your family about having varied nesting sites, like shrubs, bare soil, or bee boxes.

## How to...



# How I'll help the Earth

Use this form to organize your thoughts about ways you and others can protect the planet. Then ask an adult to email it to hello@theweekiunior.com. Find extra forms at kids.theweekiunior.com/activities.

First name	Age	State	
In honor of Earth Day, how will you	pledge to help the planet?		
What is your hope for the Earth fiv	e years from now?		
Draw a picture of what taking ca	re of the Earth looks like to you.		

By submitting this form, you give The Week Junior consent to print it in the magazine and online. Please get your parent/guardian's permission before sending it to us.