50 Environmental Activities Kids Can Do at Home

Here is a list of fun activities to help kids learn about the planet and how to protect it.

How many can you check off the list?

Learn about ways to reduce waste
- Watch The Story of Stuff and clean out your junk and look for treasures.
- Measure your weekly trash output. Make a plan to reduce your family’s waste by 25% by the time school starts.
- Make a pledge to reduce your plastic use and create an online challenge with your friends.
- Reduce food waste by reorganizing your fridge.
- Make a compost bin for your kitchen.
- Make your own reusable bag from old t-shirts.
- Make your own produce bag for fruits and vegetables.
- Make reusable food wraps from beeswax.
- Try to repair something – whether a toy, gadget or a picture frame, there are instructions to fix anything on YouTube. Discuss how repair cuts waste while you fix your item.
- Make art out of your trash and then have an art show at home.
- Make crafts out of plastic bottles.
- Upcycle styrofoam with these craft ideas.
- Write a letter to your member of Congress to support the Break Free from Plastic Act of 2020, to reduce single-use plastic and packaging nationally.

Learn about climate change
- Become energy waste detectives by using our citizen’s guide to reducing energy waste.
- Make a challenge to keep unused lights off in your house.
- Make your own wind turbine and learn about the power of offshore wind.
- Make your own solar oven from a pizza box and find out how using solar power could make your community healthier and cleaner.
- Calculate your family’s carbon footprint.
- Make videos in support of moving our country to 100% renewable energy. Post the video and tag your elected officials on social media.
- Learn about the impact of transportation on our climate. Make a plan for how to incorporate more walking and biking into your family’s daily life – and more public transit once we get past “social distancing.”
Learn about plants
- Learn about the earth, trees, and plants.
- Learn about the rainforest and then make a terrarium.
- Make leaf rubbings on paper.
- Create a self portrait out of leaves, sticks, and other foraged materials.
- Learn how to plant a garden outdoors. If you are in Colorado, you can get your own bee friendly garden kit from Environment Colorado.
- Or start an indoor container garden.
- Make plantable seed paper from old paper scraps.
- Make seed bombs to help bees and other pollinators.
- Play a game about where your food comes from.

Learn about waterways, parks and conservation
- Research waterways in your community and make a map of local rivers, lakes and streams.
- Learn about water pollution through these activities.
- Take a virtual tour of our parks, such as Yellowstone National Park!
- Take a virtual dive in the Florida Keys or one of our other marine sanctuaries.
- Learn about glaciers and write a story or draw a picture about them.
- Learn about healthy soils.
- Take action to support the Land and Wildlife Conservation Fund, which is the nation’s most successful federal land conservation and recreation program.

Learn about bees, birds and other wildlife
- Learn about how animals camouflage themselves. Play hide and seek inside based on what you learn!
- Learn about birding.
- Make a bird feeder out of an apple, peanut butter and birdseed.

Create your own self portrait out of foraged materials.
- Turn a milk or juice carton into a bird feeder.
- Build an insect hotel.
- Read the book Myrtle the Turtle and discuss the impacts of plastic waste on our planet.
- Make a mason bee home.
- Make up a song about protecting animals in your hometown from pollution.
- Draw pictures of your favorite animals that need greater protections, such as bees, sea turtles and orcas. Post the pictures to social media and tag your elected officials.

Create a healthier home and community
- Create an environmental scavenger hunt. Adapt it to your own home or backyard.
- Write a letter to your school district asking them to adopt electric school buses.
- Go for a hike and teach your children about park trail stewardship.
- Download the Wow in the World kids podcast and discuss the topics after each episode.
- Organize a family litter patrol. Get gloves and/or pick-up tools and pick up trash if you go on walks at a nearby park.