

Kat Kid Adventure

K-5 Educator Resource
2021 Earth Day Edition

Post Eco News for Eco Champs

Website: katkidadventure.com

Dear educator,

The Kat Kid Adventure Post: Earth Day Edition is an 8-page eco magazine filled with interactive Earth Day history, fun games and activities, and inspiring stories. This educator resource is designed to facilitate a fun, meaningful conversation about Earth Day with your students.

Objectives:

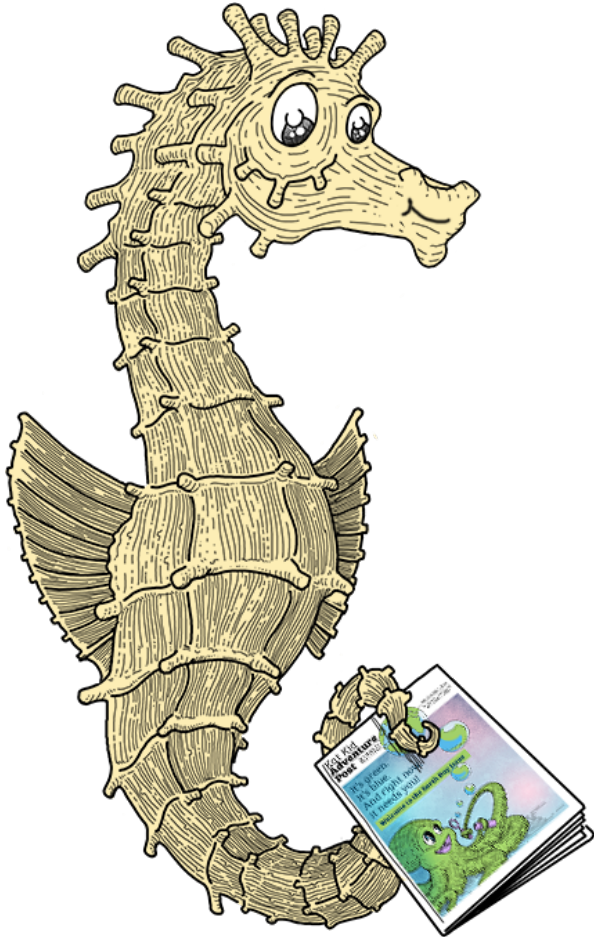
- Introduce kids to Earth Day (April 22) using fun activities
- Help kids discover planet-friendly behaviors through the 3R's: Reduce, Reuse and Rethink
- Inspire kids to think about and take small actions to help the planet, both at school and at home

What's included:

- A list of conversation starter questions for each page of the magazine to inspire discussion. Feel free to pick/choose what works best for you within time constraints, student ability/interests and your current curriculum topics.
- A Frequently Asked Questions section to provide background on the topics covered.
- Throughout, we have provided ways for kids to share their actions with us. We will profile them on our website to share with our eco community.
- Students can take their Kat Kid Adventure Post home to share their eco knowledge with their families to continue the discussions.

Materials Needed: Kat Kid Adventure Post: Earth Day Edition, pencils, coloring pencils

Time: Varies - 30 minutes minimum



Pages	What's covered	Suggested conversations starters
<p>The World Celebrates Earth Day... Pages 2 & 3</p>	<p>Learn about the history and significance of Earth Day. And write in the oyster...</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What is your favorite thing about Earth? 2. Who knows the difference between weather and climate? Can anyone tell me the difference? (See FAQ for answer.) Have you experienced extreme weather? How did it make you feel? 3. Do you think that our planet's weather is safe for people and animals? Why or why not? 4. What do you see happening that you don't agree with? How can you share your opinions/thoughts? 5. What is your promise to the Earth?
<p>Let the Kat Kid Adventure Begin! Pages 4 & 5</p>	<p>Game/puzzle-based learning for kids to discover ways to be planet-friendly through the 3 'R's: REDUCE, REUSE and RETHINK.</p> <p>Pick the activities that you would like to with your class depending on the time you have.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What will you reduce that you use everyday? 2. What's the hardest thing for you to remember to reuse? How can you make it easier to remember? 3. What would it look like to rethink how you get to school? 4. What do you have at home that you can give a new life to? 5. What will you do now that will protect our planet? And how will you remind yourself?
<p>Eco Champs From Around the World Page 7</p>	<p>Profiles of eco champs: kids who are already working to make change in their community.</p> <p>Read to/ give students time to read on their own and then come back for a big group discussion.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Who did you identify with the most? Why? 2. What was your favorite piece of advice? 3. Do you think that 1 person can change the world? Why or why not? 4. What could you do in your school or community to become an Eco Champ? 5. How can you inspire others to make a change?

<p>Write to President Biden</p> <p>Page 8</p>	<p>To celebrate Earth Day, kids can write to President Biden to thank him for prioritizing climate action.</p> <p>Give kids time to write/draw their messages about what they love about being with nature. (e.g. love for the ocean, animals, etc.)</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Do you know what the Paris Climate Agreement is? (See FAQ) 2. Why is it important to be mindful of our actions on the planet and animals? 3. Why do you think it is important for the President to protect the environment? 4. What was your favorite thing about the Kat Kid Adventure Post: Earth Day Edition? 5. What was the best thing you learned today?
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FAQs

What is climate change?

- Climate change is a change in the average conditions — like temperature — in an area over a long period of time (30+ years). It is different from weather, which are conditions over a short period of time like a rainstorm!
- Earth’s climate has constantly been changing since the beginning of time — long before humans! But in the past few centuries, scientists have gathered proof that the climate is changing due to human activity, not as part of the Earth’s natural cycle.
- Currently, we are experiencing the highest carbon dioxide levels (which is a greenhouse gas that causes climate change and is created by human activity) in millions of years — before even the ice age, pyramids, and modern humans existed!
- This is why we are in a climate emergency!

How is it caused?

- Scientists agree that climate change is due to human activities.
- Greenhouse gases in Earth’s atmosphere block heat from the sun escaping into space, and that is called the greenhouse effect. These gases keep Earth warm and livable, but when there are too many of them in the atmosphere our planet gets too hot!
- Human activities — such as burning fossil fuel to cars and buses — create greenhouse gas which causes changes to climate! Because of greenhouse gases, the atmosphere traps more heat than it is supposed to, leading to a hotter Earth.
- While scientists have known human activity and greenhouse gas emissions cause climate change, [a new NASA study](#) gives us undeniable evidence that humans are causing climate change.

What are the impacts of climate change?

- Rising global temperatures as a result of human activity harms human health, threatens safety, causes more extreme weather, and damages our ecosystems.
- It also impacts our oceans, because as they absorb heat and cause land ice to melt in the Arctic and Antarctic, the sea levels begin to rise which threatens coastal areas and cities.
- Climate change also hurts wildlife, because when they are unable to adapt to climate change fast enough many species risk going extinct.

How does climate change impact human health?

- Climate change impacts human health a lot.
- Rising temperatures and air pollution from burning fossil fuels cause serious health issues like heat exhaustion, asthma, and allergies.
- The extreme weather that results from climate change, such as wildfires, can cause breathing problems from the smoke!
- When humans interfere with wildlife habitats, they risk creating more diseases and viruses like COVID-19.
- Climate change can also cause mental health struggles such as anxiety, as well as trauma from living through disasters like hurricanes and flooding!

What is the Paris Climate Agreement?

- The Paris Agreement, adopted in 2015 in Paris, France, is an important tool for protecting our climate!
- It is important because it is a binding document signed by most of the world to set targets for climate action.
- One of these targets is to limit this century's global temperature rise to no more than 2 degrees Celsius (3.6F) above pre-industrial levels, as well as provide a road map for how to limit temperatures to only 1.5C to prevent the worst impacts of climate change.
- This Agreement encourages countries to adapt to climate change, help each other meet their goals, and create less emissions by reducing greenhouse gas and removing some from the atmosphere.

What's so special about it?

- The Paris Agreement is special because it changed the course of global climate action.
- It united almost all of the world's nations to tackle climate change, adapt to its impacts, and support developing countries.
- It is important because of its ambitions to limit global temperature rise, promotes human rights, and establishes a collaborative approach to facing climate change.