



Raising Ecological Awareness in Kids

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Dire Predictions

The climate predictions that many parents and grandparents grew up hearing from the 1970s to the 1990s have not come to fruition, at least not with the impact and severity as foretold. But undeniable data shows weather and climate changes making many negative impacts in the world today.

We cannot deny the increase of extreme wildfires, freak weather events, polar ice melting, rain forests being depleted, and species extinction. No longer can these events be ignored. The best way to battle against climate change and its disastrous outcomes is to educate children on how human activity affects the environment. As a result, this generation will have the knowledge and tools to look for better solutions.

Early Education is Best

Raising a child's ecological awareness begins early. Children, especially kids in the primary school years, love nature and the outdoors. The natural curiosity of children is a perfect springboard into the study of the environment. Children love being outside, growing flowers and vegetables, and observing wildlife. As a result, the possibilities for nature studies are practically endless.



[Earth Day activities](#) are a great place to start. Each year, children around the world celebrate the Earth with conservation stories, art that celebrates Earth, and hands-on projects.

Making children aware of the positive impacts they can have on the Earth and its ecosystem, requires more in-depth study into habitats, ecology, and the Earth's systems.

For example, children learning about ocean habitats most often study:

- The variations of plant and animal life in the sea.
- How the sea provides food for the world.
- How electricity is produced by harnessing the energy created from waves.

But raising a child's ecological awareness includes learning how melting polar ice decreases the salinity in the world's seas and threatens sea life. A study exploring the environmental challenges the world faces with the pollution of the Earth's seas with litter and trash and how finding ways to [reuse, reduce and recycle](#) naturally follows.



Watch on [YouTube](#)

Kids Academy and the Environment

The science and social studies courses at Kids Academy promote ecological literacy in young students. Kids in their preschool and primary years already have a love for nature. Our philosophy is to begin environmental study with engaging [learning videos](#), lessons, and activities that satisfy the child's natural curiosity. Activities in our science course familiarize children with plants and animals' diversity and explain their survival adaptations and life cycles.

A promotional banner with a red background. On the left is a purple price tag with '\$68⁵⁹ YEARLY' and a crossed-out '\$97⁹⁹'. To the right, text reads 'THE PRICE WAS 30% HIGHER!' in white and blue. Below that, a yellow banner says '#1 LEARNING PROGRAM AGES 2-10'. On the right side, there are two tablets displaying colorful educational content, including a cat and a character.

Besides building a better understanding of how the world around us works, we believe that these activities also help foster a child's love for our planet. Further, kids gain an understanding of the Earth's great and precious ecosystems. The following video features National Parks and teaches [the importance of conservation](#) and wildlife. It's a great resource to teach kids about the beauty of nature.



Watch on [YouTube](#)

In addition to videos, online [lessons](#) are readily available for your young nature enthusiasts.

Science Lesson - Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, Rethink, Kindergarten

Activity 1 / Recycle Maze Worksheet



Recycling is important for the health of our environment, and kids should learn how and what to recycle in their early environmental science studies! Help the boy find his way to the right recycling bin with this fun-filled recycling maze worksheet!

[Download Worksheet](#)

[Complete online](#)

Mark as accomplished

Add to favorites

Keep the learning going with [kids worksheets](#) that are perfect for practice, re-teaching, and informal assessment.

The Cactus Plant

Cactuses live in hot dry climates like the desert. Look at the picture of a cactus and guess how each part helps it survive. Check off the correct answers.

- The sharp spines help it...**
 - catch food.
 - scare off animals.
- The bright flowers help it...**
 - attract pollinators.
 - scare off pollinators.
- The thick stem and waxy skin help it...**
 - attract insects.
 - store water.
- The shallow wide roots help it...**
 - collect water from the surface.
 - change its temperature.

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Underwater Creatures with Shells

Some creatures have hard shells to protect them. Check off all the sea animals with shells.

- clownfish
- horseshoe crab
- jellyfish
- lobster
- sea star
- coral
- hermit crab
- snail

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Bald Eagle Parents

Bald eagles take very good care of their young. One parent is always at the nest after the eggs hatch. Eaglets eat 1-8 times each day. Eagle parents take turns looking for food to bring to the nest. Parents will often use their wings to protect the eaglets from the sun.

Check off the correct answer.

- Who feeds the eaglets?
mother no one both parents
- How often do eaglets eat?
up to 8 times a day 5 times a week
- Bald eagles are very bad parents. true false

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Please note that we utilize an interdisciplinary approach at [Kids Academy](http://www.kidsacademy.com). For example, we integrate and use some ecological topics in our math and English language arts activities to make them look familiar. Children work on reading comprehension and solve math problems with environmental topics.

In addition, cross-curricular connections provide children ways to apply previous knowledge to problem-solving and give kids "real-world" meaning in each subject. And studies show that an interdisciplinary approach to learning increases motivation and engagement in young learners. Here are some examples:

MARVELOUS Monarchs

Read the text about monarch butterflies. What is the main idea of this text? Check the box next to the main idea.

Monarch butterflies eat a plant called milkweed. When fall approaches, milkweed can no longer survive the cool temperatures. When this happens, the monarchs make an amazing journey in search of food and warmer weather. Every fall monarch butterflies leave Canada and the northern United States and begin flying south. This is called migration. They travel thousands of miles to a warmer climate in order to survive.

Monarch butterflies migrate south.

Milkweed is a plant that grows in North America.

Monarch butterflies are beautiful.

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Mountain Animals

Read about mountain animals. Check F for fact and O for opinion.

It is difficult to live on a mountain! Bears and goats are two amazing animals that can. Bears hibernate, or sleep, during the cold winters. Mountain goats have special hooves to help them walk and jump on the rocky land.

- Bears and goats are amazing! F O
- Goats have hooves. F O
- Bears are cute. F O
- Hibernating means sleeping. F O
- Goats jump. F O

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SUBTRACTING NUMBERS: Biodiversity

Collect the different animals in the rainforest by checking the correct answer to the subtraction problem.

python toucan

$672 - 384$

 288 312 398

$503 - 98$

 405 495 515

$715 - 256$

 449 459 561

$264 - 178$

 14 76 86

tree frog jaguar

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Raising a child's environmental awareness has become an essential goal for each family and each educational system since we're all in this together. Join Kids Academy as we partner to increase kids' love for planet Earth and teach valuable ecological and environmental concepts. Together we can make a difference.

Information on more early childhood education topics and development is readily available on the Kids Academy [parenting blog](#).



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#1 LEARNING PROGRAM AGES 2-10

