



BCDI
Black Child
Development Institute
ATLANTA

LEGACY OF CARE

OUR EARTH, OUR FUTURE

MARCH 2025

AGES 6-8



ACTIVITY GUIDE

FOR PARENTS & EARLY EDUCATORS

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March Activity Guide

Legacy of Care: Our Earth, Our Future (Ages 6-8)

Building upon our commitment to environmental stewardship and cultural heritage, this guide extends our legacy of care to elementary-aged children. Through hands-on activities and meaningful projects, children will develop a deeper understanding of environmental responsibility while celebrating African American contributions to conservation and sustainability. These activities are designed to be implemented both in classroom settings and at home, fostering a collaborative approach to environmental education.

- 1) **0-1 Year Olds**
- 2) **1-2 Year Olds**
- 3) **2-3 Year Olds**
- 4) **3-4 Year Olds**

Age 6: Environmental Innovators

Six-year-olds are developing strong reading and writing skills while maintaining their natural curiosity about the world. Activities focus on combining literacy with environmental action.

1 Recycling Journalists

- **Goal:** Connect literacy skills with environmental awareness
- **Materials:** Recycled paper journals, cameras (if available), writing materials
- **Instructions:** Children document recycling efforts through writing and pictures, creating their environmental newspaper.

2 Green Inventors Workshop

- **Goal:** Develop problem-solving skills through environmental innovation
- **Materials:** Collection of clean recyclables, basic craft supplies
- **Instructions:** Children design and create inventions that solve ecological problems, presenting their innovations to the group.

3 Earth Heroes Biography Project

- **Goal:** Learn about African American environmental leaders through research and presentation
- **Materials:** Research materials, art supplies, presentation boards
- **Instructions:** Children research and create presentations about African American environmentalists, sharing their findings with peers.

4 Conservation Comics

- **Goal:** Combine storytelling and art to share environmental messages
- **Materials:** Recycled paper, art supplies, example comics
- **Instructions:** Create comic strips about environmental heroes or conservation adventures.

Age 7: Environmental Scientists

Seven-year-olds can understand more complex environmental concepts and enjoy conducting experiments. Activities emphasize scientific inquiry and data collection.

1 Waste Watchers Research Team

- **Goal:** Learn basic sorting while introducing recycling concepts
- **Materials:** Two boxes decorated with pictures (trash/recycling), clean recyclable items
- **Instructions:** Help toddler sort items into appropriate boxes, celebrating each correct placement.

2 Urban Garden Scientists

- **Goal:** Connect scientific principles with traditional farming practices
- **Materials:** Recycled containers, soil, seeds, observation journals
- **Instructions:** Create experimental gardens using different growing conditions, documenting plant growth and health.

3 Energy Detectives

- **Goal:** Understand energy conservation through investigation
- **Materials:** Simple energy monitoring tools, recording sheets
- **Instructions:** Conduct energy audits of classroom/home, developing conservation strategies.

4 Recycling Chemistry Lab

- **Goal:** Explore properties of recyclable materials through scientific investigation
- **Materials:** Various recyclable materials, testing equipment, safety gear
- **Instructions:** Conduct safe experiments to learn about material properties and decomposition.

Age 8: Community Environmental Leaders

Eight-year-olds are ready for more complex projects and can take leadership roles in environmental initiatives. Activities focus on community impact and long-term planning.

1 Environmental Justice Advocates

- **Goal:** Understand and address local environmental issues
- **Materials:** Community maps, research materials, presentation supplies
- **Instructions:** Research local environmental challenges and create action plans for positive change.

2 Green Business Entrepreneurs

- **Goal:** Connect environmental stewardship with economic opportunity
- **Materials:** Business planning materials, recycled craft supplies
- **Instructions:** Design and implement small-scale environmental businesses or services.

3 Cultural Heritage Garden Project

- **Goal:** Connect traditional agricultural practices with modern sustainability
- **Materials:** Gardening supplies, cultural research materials
- **Instructions:** Create gardens featuring plants and techniques from African American agricultural traditions.

4 Community Recycling Campaign

- **Goal:** Develop leadership skills through community environmental education
- **Materials:** Campaign materials, presentation supplies, data collection tools
- **Instructions:** Plan and implement a community recycling awareness campaign.

Cross-Age Activities for Enhanced Learning

These activities can be adapted for any age group within the 6-8 range and are particularly effective when children of different ages work together.

1 Environmental Justice Forum

- **Goal:** Foster discussion and understanding of environmental equity
- **Materials:** Discussion guides, research materials, presentation tools
- **Instructions:** Regular meetings where children discuss environmental issues affecting their community.

2 Intergenerational Wisdom Project

- **Goal:** Connect generations through environmental knowledge sharing
- **Materials:** Recording devices, art supplies, documentation materials
- **Instructions:** Children interview family and community elders about traditional environmental practices.

3 Green Technology Showcase

- **Goal:** Explore intersection of technology and environmental solutions
- **Materials:** Recycled materials, basic electronics (optional), design materials
- **Instructions:** Children collaborate to design and present eco-friendly technological solutions.

4 Earth Legacy Festival

- **Goal:** Celebrate and share environmental learning with the community
- **Materials:** Various presentation and display materials
- **Instructions:** Plan and host an environmental awareness event featuring student projects and presentations.

Conclusion

This guide empowers elementary-aged children to become active participants in environmental stewardship while celebrating their cultural heritage. Through these activities, children develop critical thinking skills, scientific understanding, and leadership capabilities that will serve them as future environmental leaders. By engaging both families and educators, we create a robust support system for children's environmental education and activism.

The activities in this guide build upon our community's rich tradition of environmental care while preparing our children to tackle modern environmental challenges. Whether implemented in the classroom or at home, these projects help children understand their role in protecting our Earth's resources and creating positive change in their communities. Together, we strengthen our legacy of environmental stewardship and prepare the next generation of environmental leaders.

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