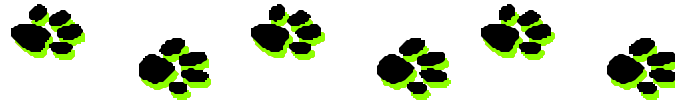




Environmental



Pathways

Overview

The purpose of this pathfinder is to serve as a starting point for research on environmental issues. This page is designed for students in grades four through six, though many of the sites also have information for parents and teachers. It is intended to be used for inquiry-based learning, and as a prerequisite to the Earth Day Festival in April. This pathfinder is by no means a comprehensive collection of material available on the subject. The resources listed here are merely recommendations of starting points.

The world that we live in is an amazing and wonderful place, yet those who inhabit it and partake of its beauty are bound to destroy it without awareness and action. This pathfinder touches on resources that will alert us to environmental crisis and move us into action for protecting and improving our global community. This pathfinder is divided into seven sections: Earth Day, Environmental (general), Air, Land, Water, Energy, and Endangered Species.





Earth Day

Kids Domain Earth Day

<http://www.kidsdomain.com/holiday/earthday/index.html>

Includes a history of Earth Day; adopt a rainforest animal; software; Earth Day stories; coloring pages; word searches; crafts and puzzles; clip art; and links to other Earth Day sites.

Planetpals Greatest Earth Day Pages Ever!

<http://www.planetpals.com/earthday.html>

A complete listing of Earth Day activities, teaching aids, earth science, and history.



Environmental (General)

Appu Kids

<http://appukids.com/>

This is a comprehensive website, a tailor-made search engine and directory for children, with over 5,000 indexed sites. Check environmental issues under the science and nature section.

Earth: The Living Planet

<http://www.worldbook.com/fun/ssystem/earth/html/intro.htm>

In recognition of Earth Day, World Book editors have compiled a collection of articles on the Earth, its history, and the impact human population growth has made on the environment.

Eco-Pros

<http://www.eco-pros.com/>

Eco-pros focuses on ecology, the environment, natural resources, plants, animals, ecosystems, and endangered species. Annotated links are provided to over 800 sources of online information.

Edu Green

<http://edugreen.teri.res.in/>

Covers topics like life on earth, renewable energy, air pollution, water and climate change. The site also has poems, games, an environment calendar, storytime, pathfinders, quotes, maps, multimedia resources, activities and related web site links.

EEK! Environmental Education for Kids

<http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/caer/ce/eeek/>

Brought to you by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, this electronic magazine for kids will bring you information on natural resources. Surf and learn more about the great outdoors.

Environmental Factoids

<http://envirosystemsinc.com/factoidsnew.html>

This site has environmental facts about climate change, forests, energy reduction, recycling, and solid wastes.

EPA Student Center

<http://www.epa.gov/students/>

This page, at the Environmental Protection Agency's web page, will provide you with background information on a wide variety of environmental issues.

Keep America Beautiful-Just for Kids

<http://www.kab.org/kids1.cfm>

Taking care of the environment is a job for everyone—including you! No matter where you live, there are things that you can do around your neighborhood or at school to take care of our environment. Find out how at this site.

Nature Explorer

<http://www.natureexplorer.com/>

NatureExplorer is based on REMedia's best-selling ZooGuides CD-ROM series. Browse through the natural world from rainforests to deserts. Find out facts about animals all over the world.

Planetpals Earthzone

<http://www.planetpals.com/>

This is an interactive site with endearing characters that teach us all the importance of our planet and solutions to saving our environment.

U.S. EPA Explorer's Club

<http://www.epa.gov/kids/>

The Environmental Protection Agency's web site for kids. Explore your environment and learn about the neat things you can do to protect it. There are games, pictures, stories, and other neat things.



Air

Acid Rain

<http://www.epa.gov/airmarkets/acidrain/>

This section of the U.S. EPA's website provides information about acid rain's causes and effects, how we measure acid rain, and what is being done to solve the problem. It also includes related science experiments.

Encyclopedia of the Atmospheric Environment

<http://www.doc.mmu.ac.uk/aric/eae/>

A one-stop source of information, for younger and older users alike, on a range of atmospheric issues, including air quality, acid rain, global warming, and ozone depletion.

Global Warming Kids Site

<http://www.epa.gov/globalwarming/kids/>

Log on to this site for explanations of the climate system, global warming and the greenhouse effect, and what we can do to help. This site also has interactive games and links.

Meet Professor Polar Bear

<http://www.arm.gov/docs/education/globwarm/globegin.html>

Professor Polar Bear will answer your questions about Global Warming: What is it? What causes it? What effects does it have on our environment?

Roofus' Solar Home

<http://www.eren.doe.gov/roofus/>

Join Roofus on a tour of his solar powered dog house and get tips for energy conservation.

The Air Pollution Page

<http://jp.kids-commons.net/vc96/vc-13/airintro.htm>

This site includes information on the sources of air pollution, health risks, the effects of air pollution on the environment, solutions, daily forecasts, and links for learning more.



Land

Backyard Magic: The Composting Handbook

<http://www.gnb.ca/elg%2Degl/0372/0003/0001-e.html>

Make the most of your trash by learning how to create a compost pile. Learn how one works and read some common questions about composting.

Celebrate Earth Week

<http://www.csr.org/earthweek>

Games, activities, and more to learn about recycling and how it protects the environment.

Garbage

<http://www.learner.org/exhibits/garbage/intro.html>

Learn how waste is handled and how some communities are doing it better. In the activities, you can test your knowledge about hazardous waste we generate in our homes and try to shrink a landfill.

Marilyn's Imagination Factory

<http://users.hsonline.net/kidatart/>

Marilyn teaches you creative ways to recycle by making art. Recycling is one way to minimize or lessen the amount of trash we have to throw away. When we recycle, we make a new product out of waste materials. This process helps save natural resources like trees, as well as landfill space and the money needed to get rid of trash.

Paper University

<http://www.tappi.org/paperu/welcome.htm>

Learn about papermaking and recycling. This site includes information on paper crafts, trees, and careers working with paper.

Rotten Truth (About Garbage)

<http://www.astc.org/exhibitions/rotten/rtintro.htm>

This site takes an in-depth look at the complex issues surrounding municipal solid waste. It is organized into four major sections: What is Garbage?, There's No "Away", Nature Recycles, and Making Choices.



Water

Kids Stuff—Groundwater

<http://www.groundwater.org/KidsCorner/kidscorner.htm>

Learn what groundwater is all about and why it is so important. Find out about a cool groundwater activity, join the awesome aquifer club, and meet G.W. Gecko.

The Nature of Water

http://www.ec.gc.ca/water/en/nature/e_nature.htm

This site is from Environment Canada. It talks about aquatic ecosystems, the nature of snow and ice, sediment, rivers, permafrost, and other wet places.

Water: From Sky to Sea

<http://www.acnatsci.org/education/skytosea/>

Log on to find out how we all live in a watershed and what that means, especially for different ecosystems and for our clean water supply.

Water Science for Schools

<http://ga.water.usgs.gov/edu/index.html>

Information on many aspects of water, along with pictures, data, maps, and an interactive center where you can give opinions and test your water knowledge. This site is from the U.S. Geological Survey.



Energy

The Atoms Family

<http://www.miamisci.org/af/sln/>

Contains activities about energy concepts, the power of the sun, energy conservation, energy transformation, electricity and fossil fuels being presented by famous gothic horror characters.

Earth Dog

<http://www.earthdog.com/HOME.html>

Earth Dog has all of the facts about renewable energy, along with some activities to do as well.

Energy Ant

<http://www.eia.doe.gov/kids/>

Energy Ant is your host as you learn about renewable and non-renewable energy and read biographies about pioneers in energy. There are also lists of energy field trips and other links to learn about energy.

The Energy Store

<http://www.energy.ca.gov/education/story/story-html/story.html>

This introduction to energy looks at geothermal energy, fossil fuels such as coal, oil, and natural gas, hydro power and ocean energy, nuclear energy, solar energy, and wind energy.

Professor Questor

<http://www.energy.ca.gov/education/>

Professor Questor will answer all of your questions about energy. He also has puzzles, stories, the one and only internet energy game show, biographies about pioneers in energy, science projects, and energy conservation tips.



Endangered Species

EE-Link: Endangered Species

<http://eelink.net/EndSpp/>

Images and a clickable regional map to endangered species, with information from the Fish and Wildlife Service. Includes activities.

Endangered Species, Kid's Corner

http://endangered.fws.gov/kids_cor.htm/

Log on to find information on endangered and threatened species. Find out what you and your school can do to help save them.

Endangered!

<http://www.amnh.org/Exhibition/Expedition/Endangered/index.html>

This is an online exhibition from the American Museum of Natural History. It examines biodiversity, endangered animals, and endangered habitats.

EndangeredSpecie

<http://EndangeredSpecie.com/>

EndangeredSpecie.com is dedicated to providing all the best endangered species information, links, photos, endangered species books, and everything else regarding rare and endangered species, conservation efforts, and endangered species organizations.

ES2000—Endangered Species of the Next Millenium

<http://library.thinkquest.org/25014/english.index.shtml>

This site explains what “endangered” is, it’s causes, efforts/ways to save endangered animals, profiles of endangered species, a media gallery, facts, and quotes.

World Wildlife Fund—Kid’s Stuff

<http://www.worldwildlife.org/fun/kids.cfm>

Includes endangered species factsheets, WWF’s virtual house that teaches you about biodiversity and its importance to our planet.

