

REAPS READER

Have you helped the environment today?



Hey there, nature lovers! In case you haven't already guessed, this month's issue of the REAPS Reader is dedicated to one of our very favourite holidays: Earth Day.

Earth Day is celebrated every year on April 22nd. Around the world, communities come together to talk about ways that we can take care of the earth, and make the world a better place. Today, we're going to share with you some of the ways we help the environment here at REAPS. After you've read our ideas, you can come up with your own ideas as a class! How can YOU take care of the earth?

The Three R's:

Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle



Reduce:

One of the best and most effective ways you can help save the environment is to **reduce** the amount of resources that you use. Resources are things that we use that come from the earth. For example, you could **reduce** the amount of water that you use by turning the water off while you brush your teeth. You can also **reduce** the amount of electricity you use by turning the lights off when you leave the room! What other ways can you **reduce**?

Reuse:

When you **reuse** an item, you prevent it from being thrown into the landfill. You also save yourself the trouble of buying a new item. Some examples of **reusing** items are: turning old pop bottles into flower pots (like the picture above!), turning old spaghetti jars into pencil holders or toothbrush holders, or turning your old ripped clothes into a quilt or a **reusable grocery bag**:

<http://www.mommypotamus.com/no-sew-t-shirt-tote-bag-tutorial/>

Recycle:

Last (but not least), **recycling** items that you don't need anymore means that they don't get thrown into a landfill, and that big companies can reuse those items to make new things! It's really easy to recycle. All of your paper and cardboard goes into one blue bin, and all of your metal and hard plastics goes in another. Remember to save your styrofoam, glass, and soft plastic (like plastic grocery bags) for the Return-It Depot!

If you have something that you want to recycle and don't know how, call us at REAPS! Recycling is one of our very favourite activities, and we will help you recycle almost anything.