

Kindergarten Earth and Human Activity Resources

Next Generation Science Standards:

K-ESS2 “Earth’s Systems” K-ESS3 “Earth and Human Activity”

ESS3.C: Human Impacts on Earth Systems

Things that people do to live comfortably can affect the world around them. But they can make choices that reduce their impacts on the land, water, air, and other living things.

ESS3.A: Natural Resources

Living things need water, air, and resources from the land, and they live in places that have the things they need. Humans use natural resources for everything they do.

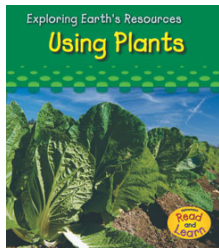
ESS2.E: Biogeology

Plants and animals can change their environment.

Books:

Using Plants by Sharon Katz Cooper (2007)

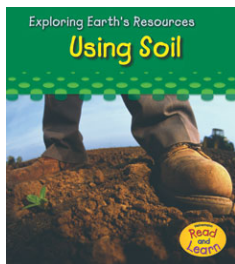
This book answers the questions: What are plants? Do all plants look alike? What do plants need to grow? How do we use plants?



Guided Reading: K
24 Pages

Using Soil by Sharon Katz Cooper (2007)

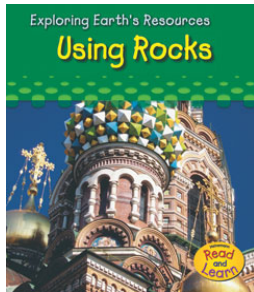
This book answers the questions: What is soil? What is soil made of? Is all soil the same? How do we use soil? Will we ever run out of soil? Who studies soil? It also includes an activity about soil.



Guided Reading: K
24 Pages

Using Rocks by Sharon Katz Cooper (2007)

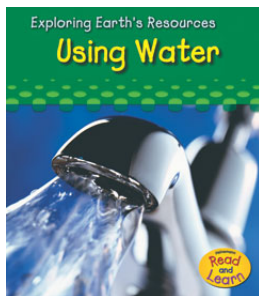
This book answers the questions: What is the Earth made of? Where do rocks come from? What are rocks made of? Where do we find rocks? How do we use rocks? Who studies rocks? It also includes an activity about rocks.



Guided Reading: K
24 Pages

Using Water by Sharon Katz Cooper (2007)

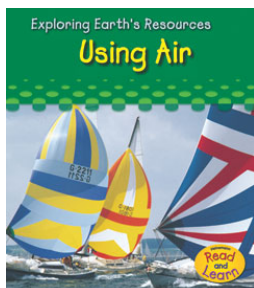
This book answers the questions: Why is water important to us? Where does our water come from? How do we use water? Can we run out of water? Who studies water? It also includes an activity about water.



Guided Reading: K
24 Pages

Using Air by Sharon Katz Cooper (2007)

This book answers the questions: What is air? What is air made of? How do we know air is all around us? How do we use air? Can we run out of air? How do we clean air? Who studies air? It also includes an activity about air.



Guided Reading: K
24 Pages

Let's Save Water by Anne L. Mackenzie (2007)

Text and photographs describe why it's important to save water, and provides simple ways that children can save water.



Guided Reading: H
24 Pages

Let's Reduce Garbage by Sarah E. Nelson (2007)

Text and photographs describe ways for children to reduce the amount of garbage they produce, and why it's important to do so.



Guided Reading: I
24 Pages

Let's Recycle by Anne L. Mackenzie (2007)

Text and photographs describe recycling, explains why it is important, and provides simple ways that children can recycle.



Guided Reading: I
24 Pages

Let's Reuse by Sarah E. Nelson (2007)

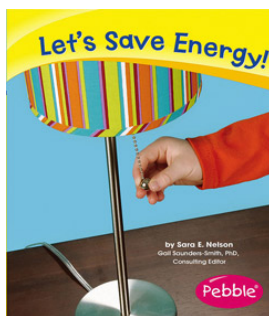
Text and photographs describe easy ways to reuse items and why it is important to do so.



Guided Reading: I
24 Pages

Let's Save Energy by Sarah E. Nelson (2007)

Text and photographs describe ways for children to save energy and explains why it's important to do so.



Guided Reading: I
24 Pages

Earth Day by Cella Clara (2013)

Includes bibliographical references (p. 23) and index. Photographs and simple text provide a brief introduction to Earth Day. We live on an amazing planet. But we have to work hard to keep it clean. Let's celebrate Earth and its future on Earth Day.



Guided Reading: K
24 Pages

These Seas Count by Alison Formento (2013)

Includes bibliographical references. When Mr. Tate's class helps out on Beach Clean-Up Day, Captain Ned teaches the children the importance of the sea and the impact of not keeping it clean.

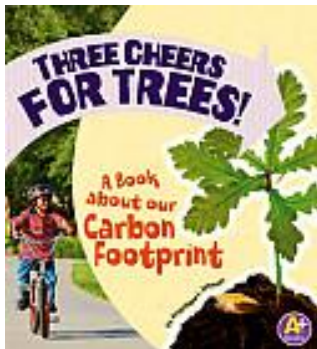


Guided Reading: L

32 Pages

Three Cheers for Trees: A Book About our Carbon Footprint by Angie Lepetit (2013)

Includes bibliographical references (p. 30) and index. Discusses carbon footprints and how everyday choices affect the Earth. Lights on or lights off? Take your bike or ride the bus? The choices you make every day affect the planet. Learn about carbon footprints and ways to be earth-friendly.



Guided Reading: M

32 Pages

Kids Can Use Less by Cecilia Minden (2009)

Includes bibliographical references (p. 22) and index. Looks at how kids can reduce their use of products that create waste, and explains why it is important to use less.

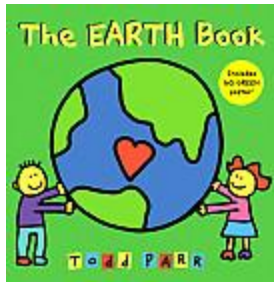


Guided Reading: I

24 Pages

The Earth Book by Todd Parr (2010)

Introduces young readers to the importance of conservation and provides ideas to live an environmentally friendly lifestyle, such as planting trees, using both sides of a piece of paper, and recycling. Includes a poster with ten tips to live green.



Guided Reading: L
37 Pages

We Can Help the Environment by Rebecca Rissman (2009)

Includes index. What is the environment? -- Caring for the environment -- Reusing -- Recycling -- Saving energy -- Cleaning up litter -- Saving water -- Caring for nature -- Caring for the future. Full-color photographs and simple text introduce young readers to the various ways to help the environment.



Guided Reading: J
24 Pages

Caring for Nature by Charlotte Guillain (2008)

Includes index. Simple text and photographs define environment and offer suggestions on how children can help protect nature.



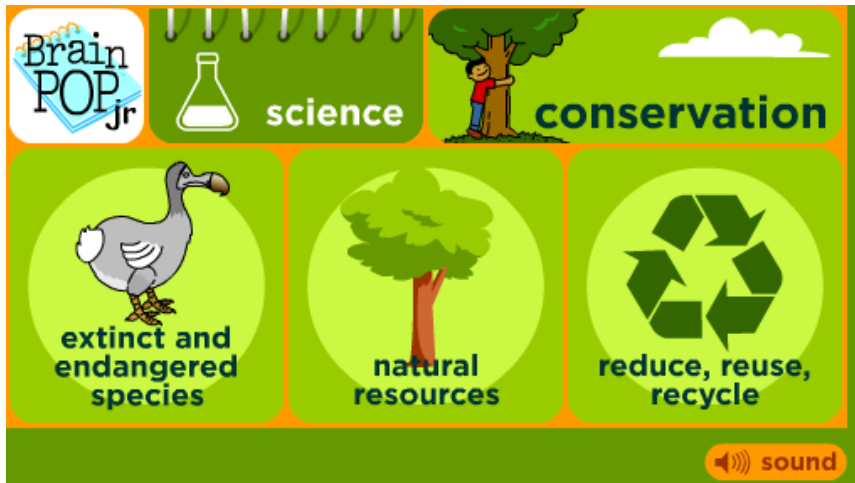
Guided Reading: G
24 Pages

Digital Resources

Databases: (To access these databases remotely, ask your librarian for your school's username and password.)

Brainpop Jr.: *Brainpop, Jr. is a database that provides a 3-6 minute video on informational topics followed by a comprehension quiz. The database includes activities and lesson plans as well. It is geared towards grades K-3.*

These videos align with kindergarten Next Generation Science Standards on earth and human activity.



Two different online quizzes are offered after each video to check for understanding. They are entitled “Easy” and “Hard” with 5 questions each.

2.

An illustration of a yard sale. A woman is standing behind a table with a sign that says 'Yard Sale'. There are various items on the table, including a yellow stuffed animal, a bicycle, and a chair. A man is standing next to the table, and a woman is standing behind it. There are other people in the background.

Moby has a yard sale to sell his old toys. Why is this good for the environment?

- (a) because he will make money at the sale
- (b) because toys are good for the environment
- (c) because he will use up natural resources
- (d) because other people can reuse his toys

Pebble Go! *Pebble Go is a database that includes non-fiction books, videos and activities. The target audience for Pebble Go is Kindergarten through 3rd grade, however Pebble Go can be a great way to pique interest in a topic for 4th and 5th graders. Each book is 5 pages long and includes a read-aloud button that highlights each word as it reads aloud. There are often one or two very short videos on the topic embedded within each book.*

Pebble Go's has several books that align with Next Generation Science Standards for Kindergarten on Earth and Human Activity. To access these titles click on "Social Studies," "People and the Environment" and "Helping the Environment." Here are the subjects covered:

A screenshot of the Pebble Go interface. At the top, a blue navigation bar contains a green arrow pointing left labeled "Back", a small image of a green field, a small image of a person holding a book, and a blue arrow pointing right labeled "Helping the Environment". Below this, a light blue area contains five white-bordered boxes with images and labels: "Caring for Nature" (a girl looking at flowers), "Cleaning Up Litter" (people sitting on the ground with bags), "Reusing and Recycling" (a recycling symbol), "Saving Energy" (solar panels on a roof), and "Saving Water" (a hand turning a water tap).

Here's an example of the inside of one of the books:

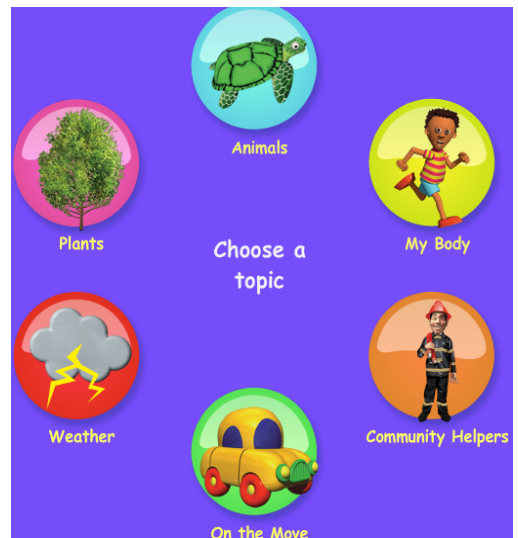
A screenshot of the inside of a Pebble Go book. At the top, a blue navigation bar contains a green arrow pointing left labeled "Back", a small image of a green field, a small image of a person holding a book, a small image of a hand turning a water tap, and a blue arrow pointing right labeled "Saving Water". Below this, a light blue area contains five yellow buttons with text: "How We Use Water", "Water in Danger", "How Communities Save Water", "Saving Water at Home", and "How You Can Help". To the left of the main text area is a speaker icon. To the right is a yellow button labeled "Video 1". The main text area contains the following text: "We use water every day. We drink it and cook meals with it. We use it to wash our clothes and our bodies. Water flushes toilets and helps gardens grow. We could not live without water." To the right of the text is a photograph of a young girl in a red shirt and orange patterned dress watering pink flowers with a silver watering can. At the bottom right of the page is a yellow button labeled "Print This".

World Book Web:

The World Book Web is a suite of online research tools that includes encyclopedia articles, primary source collections, educator tools, student activities, pictures, audio, and video, complemented by current periodicals and related Web sites. Most all of these World Book Web research tools include options where text can be read aloud to the user. All Ithaca elementary school libraries currently subscribe to **World Book Kids**, **World Book Student**, **World Book Discover**, **World Book Timelines** and **World Book Classroom: Early World of Learning**. For specific training in how to use these amazing tools consult Worldbook's training website or ask your school's librarian. <http://www.worldbookonline.com/training/>

The best Kindergarten resources from the above list are in **World Book Classroom: Early World of Learning**. Early World of Learning includes a section on Plants that aligns with Kindergarten's Next Generation Science Standards for Earth and Human Activity.

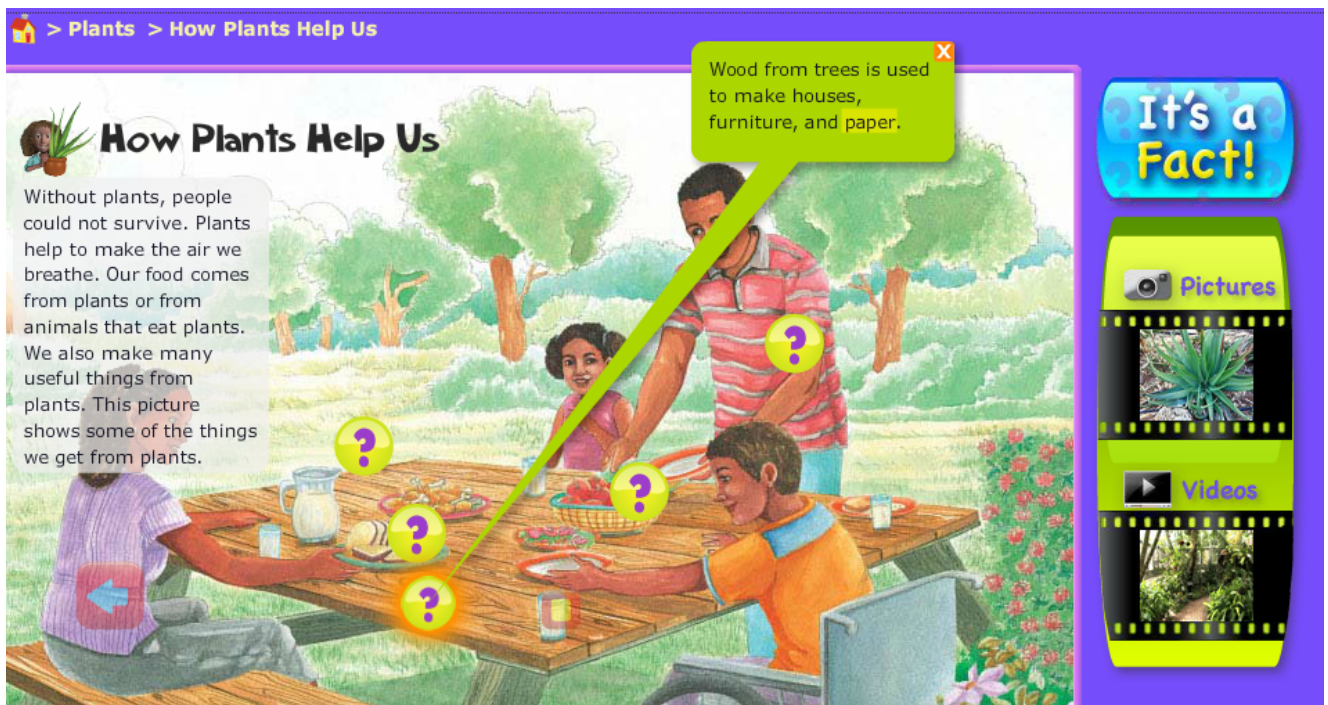
In Early World of Learning first Click on "Know It," then on "Plants." Within this section there are a number of different options available to you. "How Plants Help You" shows how *humans use natural resources for everything they do*. This and other titles show *living things need water, air, and resources from the land, and they live in places that have the things they need*. It is possible for you to create an account in Early World of Learning, set up a classroom, and use quizzes to check your students for understanding. There are built-in quizzes, and you can also design your own. in Early World of Learning, set up a classroom, and use quizzes to check your students for understanding. There are built-in quizzes, and you can also design your own.



Students can choose from the following plant related subjects to learn more.



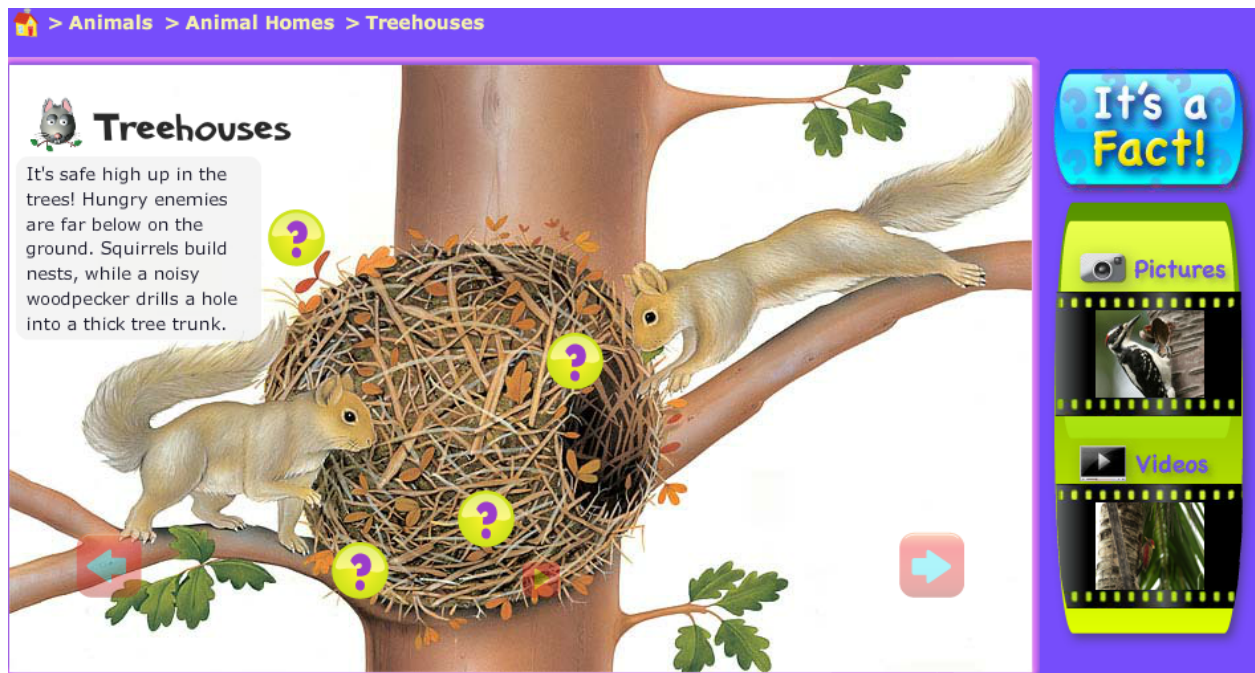
When you select a subject, there is a paragraph that is read aloud if you click on it. The question marks on the picture all include one fact that are read aloud if you click on them. There is a bonus fact in "It's a Fact!" There are also pictures and videos on the right to supplement the information on the left.



World Book's *Early World of Learning* also includes a section on Animal Homes that aligns with Kindergarten's Next Generation Science Standards for Earth and Human Activity. It shows that *living things need water, air, and resources from the land, and they live in places that have the things they need.*



When you select a subject, there is a paragraph that is read aloud if you click on it. The question marks on the picture all include one fact that are read aloud if you click on them. There is a bonus fact in "It's a Fact!" There are also pictures and videos on the right to supplement the information on the left.



Websites:

Starfall: Earth Day

<http://www.starfall.com/n/holiday/earthday/play.htm?f>

The Earth Day section of Starfall has a page where students can practice clicking and dragging recyclables into matching containers. The recyclables are scattered around a park, so students can see the impact of littering on the environment, and they can practice correcting that human impact by clearing the park of debris.

Eekoworld: PBS Kids

<http://pbskids.org/eekoworld/index.html>

This website has an activity called “EekoHouse” where users go from room to room in a house clicking on household objects (like newspapers, bottles and a faucet left running). They are then presented with a choice of what to do with the object. The user then decides what would be the better choice for the environment to lessen human impact on the world. The “EekoCreature” feature on this website allows users to choose an animal and play with that animal in a online gaming environment with other users who are online around the world. I would not recommend it for Kindergarten. There are some excellent intro videos on the left hand side of the main page that would be perfect introductions for Kindergarten users. Their subjects include: The Environment, Garbage and Recycling, Air and Water, and Plants and Animals.

Recycle Roundup: National Geographic Kids

<http://kids.nationalgeographic.com/kids/games/actiongames/recycle-roundup/>

Use Gus the Gorilla to clear trash from a park into recycling, trash and compost.

iPad apps:

Save The Energy - by S7 Design

Cost: Free

Learn how to save energy in a house by discovering what uses the most energy. Click on items in a selected room to gain points by saving energy.

The Four Seasons - An Earth Day Interactive Children’s Story Book by TabTale, LTD

Cost: Free

Raises awareness about the importance of clean air, water and a green environment with a story that takes place over all four seasons.

Recycling Truck - by Good Glue

Cost: \$0.99

Follow alongside a recycling truck on recycling day as it drives through a neighborhood. Help the driver pick up recycling cans and then take the truck to the recycling center to sort the recycling by paper, glass, metal or plastic.