



Theme: Sustainability (Grades K-2)

Pre-Visit Activity #1 Green Super Hero

Overview:

Students will listen to the story *Michael Recycle* by Ellie Bethel. Michael is a green super hero very concerned about our Earth. This is a great book for all ages with beautiful illustrations.

Objectives:

- Students will recognize the importance of keeping our Earth clean.
- Students will think of ways they can help the Earth at school and at home.

Materials:

- *Michael Recycle* by Ellie Bethel

Activity:

1. Read the storybook to the class.
2. After reading the book, brainstorm ideas of how the students can become "Green Super Heroes".
3. Decide as a class what you can do within the classroom to help green up our Earth.
4. Ask what they can do for their school.
5. Ask what they can do at home.
6. Here are some ideas to get you started:
 - a. Have students pick up trash around the school grounds, or at a nearby park.
 - b. In the classroom, have students use both sides of a piece of paper before recycling it.
 - c. Start a paper recycling program at your school.
7. You can create math projects quantifying the amount of trash picked up, the amount of paper saved by using both sides, or the amount of paper recycled.
8. Ask students how they felt when doing these projects.
9. Have students draw a picture of a greener Earth.

Suggested Reading:

1. ***Keepers of the Earth: Native American Stories and Environmental Activities for Children*** by Michael J. Caduto and Joseph Bruchac
2. ***I Can Save the Earth!*** By Alison Inches. Max is a little monster who likes to litter and never, ever recycles. Then the electricity goes out and he sees how exciting and beautiful the Earth is... and that it will need his help to stay that way!
3. ***It's Earth Day!*** By Mercer Mayer. Little Critter decided to do his part to slow down global warming with help from his friends and family.
4. ***The Garbage Monster*** by Joni Sensel. Jo is slow to take out the family garbage one evening, so the garbage hauls her out!
5. ***The Dumpster Diver*** by Janet S. Wong. Steve delves into the trash each weekend, encouraging his young neighbors to see the potential in what other people throw away.
6. ***The Great Trash Bash*** by Loreen Leedy. Beaston seems like a perfect town until Mayor Hippo realizes it has too much trash. The residents go on a trash bash, getting rid of their trash and changing their habits.
7. ***Michael Recycle*** by Ellie Bethel. The town of Abberdoo-Rimey has a garbage problem, until Michael Recycle, a new kind of superhero, comes to the town with a plan.
8. ***Michael Recycle Meets Litterbug Doug*** by Ellie Bethel. Litterbug Doug is lazy, wasteful, messy, and hates recycling. It's up to Michael Recycle to show Doug the error of his ways before it's too late.
9. ***The Day the Trash Came Out to Play*** by David M. Beadle. When Robin throws a candy wrapper on the street, he unintentionally starts an event of landfill proportions. Can Robin fix it before everything is buried under a pile of unruly trash?
10. ***The Berenstain Bears Don't Pollute (Anymore)*** by Stan and Jan Berenstain. When careless citizens pose a threat to Bear Country's environment, Brother and Sister Bear form the Earthsavers Club.