

WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY – IDEAS BANK

A continuous collection of classroom and whole school ideas to explore environmental responsibility, sustainability and global action. Suitable across primary and secondary phases.

About World Environment Day

- Celebrated on 5 June
- Led by the United Nations Environment Programme
- Established in 1972 to encourage awareness and action for the environment
- Each year focuses on a different environmental theme such as biodiversity, pollution or climate action
- The day encourages people, communities and schools to take practical action to protect the planet

Whole School / All Through Ideas

- Introduce the day through a short assembly exploring global environmental challenges
- Watch a short environmental documentary clip and identify the key message
- Create a whole school environmental pledge
- Organise a school litter pick or local clean up activity
- Create displays showing how students can reduce waste and protect nature
- Reflect on how individual actions can influence environmental change
- Link environmental themes to subjects across the curriculum
- Discuss how schools and communities can become more sustainable

Primary Ideas

- Go on a nature walk and record plants, insects and wildlife
- Create posters encouraging people to protect the environment
- Design recycling symbols and discuss what materials can be reused
- Build simple food chains and explore what happens if one part disappears
- Create a classroom recycling station and track waste reduction
- Draw or paint local landscapes and discuss why they should be protected
- Write a short story about helping the planet
- Create a class action plan for helping the environment

Secondary Ideas

- Investigate environmental issues such as plastic pollution, climate change or deforestation
- Debate who holds responsibility for protecting the planet
- Analyse environmental data such as carbon emissions or biodiversity trends
- Conduct an environmental audit of the school
- Research local conservation projects
- Create an environmental awareness campaign using posters or short videos
- Investigate how businesses and governments influence environmental policy

- Explore solutions such as renewable energy and sustainable cities

Cross Curricular Links

- Science, ecosystems, biodiversity and climate change
- Geography, sustainability and human impact on environments
- English, persuasive writing and environmental campaigns
- Maths, analysing environmental data and trends
- Art, environmental messaging and nature themed artwork
- Citizenship, responsibility and global environmental action