

TEACHER GUIDE

Trash Talk!

TO: Teachers

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In this edition of *Trash Talk!*, we look forward to Earth Day in April. Inside this Teacher Guide, we have provided ideas to “reuse” the newsletter for daily instruction, journal writing prompts for students, and an extension activity. For your convenience, you will find Teacher Keys as well.

Below, we provide information about this issue’s activities so that you can incorporate *Trash Talk!* into your daily curriculum.

Activity	Subject Areas	Skills Addressed
Literally	<i>Language Arts</i>	Distinguishing literal from non-literal language; Understanding figurative use of words in idioms; Using context to determine meaning
Signs & Symbols	<i>Social Studies</i> <i>Language Arts</i>	Interpreting symbols widely used in society; Determining the meaning of symbols and related words and phrases; Reading words with several syllables; Using knowledge of root to determine the meaning of unknown words; Using dictionary and/or context to determine meaning of unknown words
Dare to Compare	<i>Math</i>	Computing with whole numbers; Comparing numbers; Identifying factors of numbers; Identifying odd and even numbers; Solving for unknown values; Replacing letters with their values; Using logical reasoning; Testing possible solutions
What’s Wrong?	<i>Science</i>	Defining terms; Understanding how natural materials meet the needs of humans
I Need It!	<i>Social Studies</i>	Distinguishing between wants and needs; Comparing costs and benefits in making spending decisions
Something’s Missing	<i>Language Arts</i>	Using knowledge of letters, sounds, syllables, and word formation to read and accurately complete a text; Using context to confirm and self-correct

Reuse Ideas

Math

- Write $<$, $>$, or $=$ to make these statements true:
 7×5 ____ 38 $39 \div 13$ ____ 2.5
- List the factors of 36.
- Open *Trash Talk!* so that it is a large rectangle. Measure the sides. Find the area in centimeters and inches.
- Write these numbers as words:
27 29 35 80

Language Arts

- Circle one word with the suffix *-able*, two words with the prefix *ex-*, and three words with four syllables.
- Use these words in a sentence: *clue* and *diamonds*.
- Write these words in ABC (alphabetical) order:
copper chromium cotton cats clue
- Supply a helping verb to complete this sentence:
Brandon's mom ____ driving to the Earth Day Festival.

Science

- Circle the items that don't belong in each group:
iron ore petroleum tree gold
poison wholesome toxic harmful
frozen fire flammable ignite
- Which of these resources typically comes from a mine?
cotton bauxite ore petroleum
- What type of scientist studies rock formations?
seismologist geologist archaeologist

Social Studies

- Create a map of your neighborhood using some of the symbols from "Signs & Symbols."
- Circle the one that does not belong:
California Cleveland Colorado Connecticut
- The first Earth Day was celebrated 44 years ago. What year was that?

Journal Writing Prompts

Write a paragraph that includes these words:
flammable and *fire extinguisher*.

List 10 words that rhyme with *clue*.

Draw a picture of "raining cats and dogs."

Did your parents celebrate Arbor Day or Earth Day at school when they were your age? What do they remember about those celebrations?

List all of the things you usually recycle. Are there other things you could recycle? If so, what?

What is your favorite season? Why?

Start a one-page story with this line: *As we topped the hill on the bike trail, we saw...*

On the way home from school today, make a list of all of the types of litter you see.

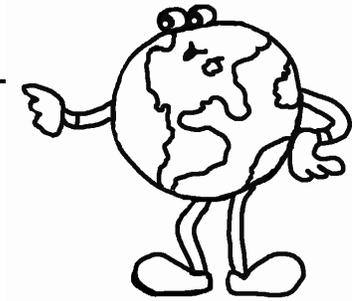
Write the word *ecology* in your journal. Without looking it up, write a definition and use the word in a sentence. Now look the word up in a dictionary and write down the real definition. How close was your definition?

Planet Poetry

Make copies of the blackline master on the next page. Have students work on their own or in groups to create an acrostic poem using the letters in "Earth Day" to begin each line.



Planet Poetry



Instructions: Write an acrostic poem about Earth Day. Using a piece of scratch paper, write down all of the things you can think of about Earth Day and taking care of our planet. Now start writing your poem. Begin each line with the letter shown and then write a word, phrase, or sentence.

E
A
R
T
H

D
A
Y

Teacher Keys

I Need It!

1. want
2. need
3. need
4. want
5. want

Bonus: Answers will vary, but may include: cardboard box, paper grocery bag, reusable tote bag, basket, trash can, crate, or bucket.

What's Wrong?

1. petroleum
3. iron ore
5. copper
9. trees
10. quartz sand (silica)



Literally

1. "Raining cats and dogs" – raining heavily or especially hard
2. "Food for thought" – something that makes you think harder or consider something new
3. "Barking up the wrong tree" – to make the wrong choice or ask the wrong person



Bonus: Top Bauxite Ore Mining Countries: Australia, China, Brazil, India, and Guinea

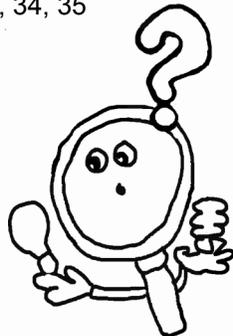
Products Made from Plastic: Answers will vary, but may include: toys, sports equipment, remote controls, game controllers, shampoo bottles, light switches, computer keyboards, food containers, bottles, outdoor furniture, toothbrushes, eye glasses, trash and recycling carts, DVDs, bread bags, etc.

Something's Missing

Each Earth Day, my family chooses one new thing we'll do to help the environment. Three years ago, we started grasscycling our lawn clippings. Two years ago, we began recycling all of our cereal boxes, soda cartons, and shoe boxes. Last year, we collected all of our unneeded lawn chemicals and took them to the household hazardous waste drop-off event. What should we do this year?

Dare to Compare

- L**
1. 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35
 2. 27, 29, 31, 33, 35
 3. 27
 4. Yes
- T**
1. A (Answers may vary.)
 2. C (Answers may vary.)
 3. 39
 4. No — You can find the answer without using Clue D. (Answer may vary.)



Signs & Symbols

