Denton Sustainable Schools
Earth Day Newsletter

Message from the DSS Staff

This is an unprecedented time but please know that Denton Sustainable Schools is available to help support you wherever you need. If you need information for virtual resources, virtual story times or lessons we are only a call or email away. We would love to be a part of the programs that you have planned for the rest of the school year. Many resources and tools are posted on our DSS Facebook page. Please like, follow and share to stay in the know with updated city information as it pertains to our community and educational resources for distant learning. The Facebook page can be found here: https://www.facebook.com/DentonSustainableSchools/. Take care of your health. Be safe!
DSS Team

Earthx

Earthx is the world’s leading connector for and forum for sustainability. They partner with organizations such as National Geographic to create a one of a kind experience. The conference is usually held annually in Dallas but this year it will be virtual and FREE. There
Happy Earth Day!

Today marks the 50th Anniversary of Earth Day! Earth Day was originated in 1970 and was started by Gaylord Nelson, a Senator from Wisconsin. Although we are all celebrating from home there are still so many ways that we can benefit our planet. Everyday actions such as recycling, picking up your pet waste and participating in meatless Monday makes an impact. *If you would like a virtual Earth Day presentation or need assistance with an activity, please don’t hesitate to contact us.* We are here to support you. Dr. Jane Goodall has an amazing quiz on Roots & Shoots to help students identify their passions from a social and environmental context and offers suggestions for projects or campaigns that can be done to action. This is a great tool for students to discover what may be a hidden interest and to use their creativity to create change.

[EarthDay.org](#)  [History of Earth Day](#)  [RootsandShoots.com](#)

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**City Nature Challenge**

The City Nature Challenge starts on Thursday, April 24 and is also called a bioblitz. This challenge is done using the iNaturalist app and is the largest citizen science event using the app. The City Nature Challenge is free and allows you to explore nature, identify species and share photos of your findings. In 2019 159 cities participated globally. This is a wonderful way to practice science in your own backyard.

[City Nature Challenge](#)

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**Virtual Field Trips**

Sadly, many field trips and Careers on Wheels programs that offer students hands on learning have been cancelled. I’ve created a list of virtual field trips around Denton and...
Careers on Wheels type of videos for Denton ISD. All of the videos vary in length and are perfect for K-5 learners. Please don’t hesitate to share this information with parents as well who may be looking for an activity to do as a family.

If you are looking to venture out and go on a virtual field trip these tours are for you!

- **Gas Well Inspections**
- **Watershed Protection**
- **Denton Municipal Lab**
- **Mobile Library**
- **Recycling**
- **Bike and Pedestrian**

These are tours of different areas in the city as toured by Library Larry the Puppet

- **Tour of DME**
- **Tour of Water Works**
- **Clear Creek Natural Heritage Center**
- **Denton Police Department**
- **WaterWorks**
- **Recycling Center Tour (PRATT)**

Online Virtual Zoo Tours/Events

- **Assiniboine Park & Zoo**: meet their animals up close and personal with "Creature Features"! Learn different animal facts and learn about individual animal health and training live with zoo employees.
- **Columbus Zoo**: help name their new baby polar bear cub. Vote each day and see which name wins.
- **Nature's Witness Virtual Exhibit**: take a virtual field trip and learn about animals from all over the world.
- **The Online Zoo**: visit different zoos all over the world.
- **San Diego Zoo**: utilize 22 self-paced courses from home.
- **Texas State Aquarium**: join online for aquatic animal events, videos, and Q & A sessions with staff.
- **The Louvre**: view naturalist art or one of their diverse online collections including pieces from all over the world.
- **The Met**: view over 5,000 years of human history through art.
- **National Museum of Natural History**: go on virtual tours of their collections and learn about the history of life, our planet, and other subjects.

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**Artwork from Harpool Middle School**

Check out the amazing artwork completed by the students from Harpool Middle School in honor of the 50th Anniversary of Earth Day!

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**National Poetry Month**

April means that spring is in full bloom! It is also National Poetry Month. Have your students take a Haiku Hike in their back
yard, around the block or just based on what they can see out of a window. This activity is a mix of spelling, vocabulary, math and art.

Poetry Month

Please don’t forget to practice self care as you care for your students. Here are a few tips!

50 Self-Care Ideas for Teachers

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