

### TITLE HELP THE EARTH FEEL GOOD

#### **MATERIALS**





Author and illustrator: Todd Parr Publisher: Little, Brown & Company, New York 2011

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### VARIABLES THAT CAN BE WORKED ON

Positive Attitudes towards Health, Responsible Decision Making

### SCHOOL CONTEXT

Reading Plan, Promotion of Healthy Habits, Work on Proyects, Personal Identity and Bilingualism

### RECOMMENDED AGE

3-6 years old

### **SYNOPSYS**

With his signature blend of playfulness and sensitiviy, Todd Parr explores the important, timely subject of environmental protection and conservation in this eco-friendly picture book. It includes lots of easy, smart ideas on how we can all work together to make the Earth feel good -from planting a tree and using both sides of the paper, to saving energy and reusing old things in new ways. We have the additional material of the Read Aloud Book for Kids video clip.

THEORETICAL REFERENCE: At an early age responsible decision-making is not a fully developed ability, as it requires greater cognitive maturity. However, it is certainly possible to promote desirable behaviour and choices by showing the possible consecuences of decisions, and this is very present in this book.

It is very important to foster positive attitudes towards health and a balanced relationship with the environment. This may be assisted by making sure one practices healthy habits of personal hygiene, diet, body care,... as well as acting responsibly towards the environment.

**FUNDAMENTAL PURPOSE**: It is necessary to create environmental awareness in children from an early age and make it part of their personal identity. They should understand that the addition of some small habits to their daily lives with their families is a very valuable step towards making the world a better place to live in.

At present this is a trending topic issue on social networks, media, internet... Let's try to take advantage of this and use visual educational tools to achieve significant results. Reading with the family is also an enjoyable way of putting this it into practice, as well as a good opportunity to search for this type of books in our personal library.

### **DEVELOPMENT**

### 1ST Phase

The teacher explains to the pupils that they are going to do an activity about environmental awarenes. However, before watching the video about the book, we have to ensure they have understood the concept. If any pupil is familiar with it he/she can be allowed to explain to the rest of the class, otherwise the teacher will do it.

We then play the video, but we should pause it at the moment marked below to give pupils an opportunity to anticipate with their own answers or opinion that may prove highly creative. Afterwords the class can share opinions on the answers given and then we go back to the book's solutions.

# I take care of the earth because I know I can do little things everyday to make a BIG difference

I use both sides of the paper

And bring my own bags to the market because...

I love the trees

And I want the wls tohabe a place to live

I turn out the faucet while I brush my teeth

And use less water for my baths because...

I love the fish

And I want the oceans to stay blue

I take the school bus

And ride my bike because...

I love the stars and I want the air

To be clear so I can see them sparkle

I try to eat every bite of my plate

And save my leftovers because...

I love watching things grow

And I want there to be enough foor for everyone

I remember to turn off the lights

And shut the refrigerator to save energy because...

I love the polar bears

And I want the snowmen to stay cool

I throw garbage in the trush can

And recycle glass, aluminun, paper, and plastic because...

I love to walk barefoot in the grass

And I don't want to move to Mars!

Most of all I help to take car of the earth because...

I want us ALL to be happy and healthy

Everyone of us can help protect the earth and make it feel good.

Remember: if we take care ot it, it will take care of us.

Love Todd

### Green poster

The ways I can help the earth

- 1. Turn off the lights
- 2. RECYCLE
- 3. Save my leftovers
- 4. Be nice to the worms
- 5. Share a book
- 6. Plant a tree
- 7. Use both sides of the paper
- 8. Save water
- 9. Clean up trash

# 2<sup>nd</sup> Phase

Now it is time to get going. Pupils will be given a list of recyclable things and they should find out:

# 1. What are they made of?

- What is a book made of?
- What is a food box made of?
- What is a shopping bag made of?...

Examples are provided, but feel free to choose other elements











### 2. In which reclying bin should it go?



# 3. How do you feel when you put glass in the green bin?

- How do you feel when you see someone throwing paper on the ground?
- What would you tell you sister if she left the water tap open?
- How do you feel when you see plastic bags in the sea? What would you do?...

This work may be done either individually, in pairs or groups, whichever way the teacher feels will be more motivating for pupils

## 3rd Phase

Now that we know a lot about environmental matters and good habits we can create a green corner in our class. To decorate it let's make a big mural with our own decalogue to help the earth feel good. For sure you will be able to find at least 5 more things to add to the book's green poster.

Be creative and be green to make a better world to live in!

The children's pledge is not only something they say but also something to be acted on so that every day they can tell the teacher how they have fulfilled the pledge and to share the ecological things they have done at the beginning of the class.