

Life
Earth and Space
Physical

LESSON 53 EARTH DAY—APRIL 22

Identifying ways to conserve paper and plastic

Lesson Preparation

Program Materials

- Lesson Activity 53

The Lesson

- **Optional:** Save this lesson until Earth Day, April 22. Use the following two sentences if you are teaching the lesson on April 22.

“Today is Earth Day.”

“Earth Day is a special day when people think about how they can help Earth.”

“Earth has many resources.”

“Natural resources are things such as water, air, soil, rocks, oil, and plants.”

“One way people can help Earth is by conserving natural resources.”

“Conserving natural resources means not to waste or harm natural resources.”

“Human beings need to use less of the Earth’s resources so that there will be plenty for everyone in the future.”

“At the beginning of the year, you learned that paper and plastic are human-made materials.”

“Human-made materials are made from natural resources.”

“What natural resource is paper made from?” *trees*

“Plastic is made from oil.”

“Using less paper and plastic will help conserve the natural resources of trees and oil.”

“There are three things we can do to use less paper and plastic.”

“These three things are reduce, reuse, and recycle.”

“What do you think the word ‘reduce’ means?” *use less*

“Reduce means to use less of something.”

“What are some things we can do to reduce the amount of paper and plastic we use each day?”

- Allow time for your child to offer suggestions.

“What do you think the word ‘reuse’ means?” *use again*

“Reuse means to use again.”

“What are some paper and plastic objects we can reuse instead of throwing away?”

- Allow time for your child to offer suggestions.

“What do you think the word ‘recycle’ means?”

“Recycle means to collect and reprocess materials so they can be used again.”

- Discuss with your child the type of recycling that occurs in your neighborhood.

“What are some paper and plastic objects we could recycle?”

- Allow time for your child to offer suggestions.

“During the next week, we will practice reducing the amount of paper and plastic we use, reusing paper and plastic, and recycling paper and plastic.”

- Hand Lesson Activity 53 to your child.
- Read question 1. Change the word “school” to “home.”

“Each day you will tally on the chart how many pieces of paper and plastic you throw away.”

“When you put a piece of trash in the basket, write a tally mark.”

“Each day you will try to throw away fewer pieces of paper and plastic.”

“At the end of the week, you will see if you are successful at conserving paper and plastic.”

- Read question 2.

“Write one way you will reduce the amount of paper or plastic you use each day.”

- Allow time for your child to do this.
- Read question 3.

“Write one way you will reuse paper or plastic each day.”

- Allow time for your child to do this.

“Another way to conserve paper and plastic is to buy things made out of recycled paper or plastic.”

Name _____

Lesson Activity 53
Science 2 Lesson 53

Conserving by Reducing and Reusing

1. During the next week, tally the number of pieces of paper or plastic you throw away at school each day.

Conservation Graph

	Paper	Plastic	Total
Monday			
Tuesday			
Wednesday			
Thursday			
Friday			

2. What is one way you will reduce the amount of paper or plastic you use?

3. What is one way you will reuse paper or plastic?

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Name _____

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