

## Suggested Activities for Earth Day Outside

### **Nature in the City BINGO**

The Greenbelt Alliance in San Francisco has a curriculum that ties the Greenbelt to the schoolyard. This activity is tied to curriculum standards, has full instructions for the teacher and students, and has a BINGO card to print out.

<http://www.greenbelt.org/downloads/resources/curriculum/chapter5.pdf>

### **Nature Squares**

This activity uses large nature squares (or grids) and encourages students to observe and record the items in their square area. Student should be allowed 30-40 minutes to detail as many observations as possible - animals, plants, and rocks, etc. Once their observations are complete, they should answer the questions on the back of their worksheet related to biotic and abiotic items.

<http://sciencespot.net/Media/ncsquares.pdf>

### **Schoolyard Report Card**

The Chesapeake Bay Foundation developed a tool for students to give their own schoolyard a grade. Based on this activity, classes can examine multi-disciplinary facets of their local habitat and come to realize which restoration projects will be most effective. <http://www.cbf.org/Document.Doc?id=491>

### **Tree ID**

Tree ID activity from Gaines Elementary School - [http://www.discoverlife.org/ed/si/GA/acc/gaines\\_new/](http://www.discoverlife.org/ed/si/GA/acc/gaines_new/)

**Outdoor Classrooms** - <http://outdoorclassroom.org/>

**Build a Meadow** - <http://www.fws.gov/chesapeakebay/pdf/habitatguide.pdf#page=87>

### **School Water Audit - from National Environmental Education Week**

EE Week's *Be Water Wise!* School Water Audit guides students through their own audit of school water use, encouraging them to "find the leaks" in the water use at school and develop strategies to improve water conservation.

Includes curriculum activities, teachers guide, and steps to post your data online.

[http://www.eeweek.org/water\\_wise/water\\_audit.htm](http://www.eeweek.org/water_wise/water_audit.htm)

**Kaboose education resources** - Earth Day crafts include recycled bug mobile, eggshell planters, a tin can herb garden, and many more. It includes an Earth Day IQ quiz as well!

<http://holidays.kaboose.com/earth-day/>

**National Geographic's Backyard Birding** - <http://animals.nationalgeographic.com/animals/birding>

### **National Flyfishing in Schools Program - "Cast a fly...catch a student"**

The National Flyfishing in Schools Program is a nationwide, in school program, that teaches the positive lifetime activity of flyfishing to students in grades 6-12. NFFSP educates students not only how to cast a fly rod in the school gym, it also teaches them about fish, insects and aquatic resources as it fosters awareness about the out-of-doors, conservation and stewardship.

<http://www.flyfishinginschools.org/>

### **National Parks Week**

April 17-25 is National Parks week and the entrance fee is waived to encourage people to visit the parks.

<http://www.nps.gov/npweek/>

Curriculum ideas from parks nationwide - <http://www.nps.gov/learn/curriculum.htm>