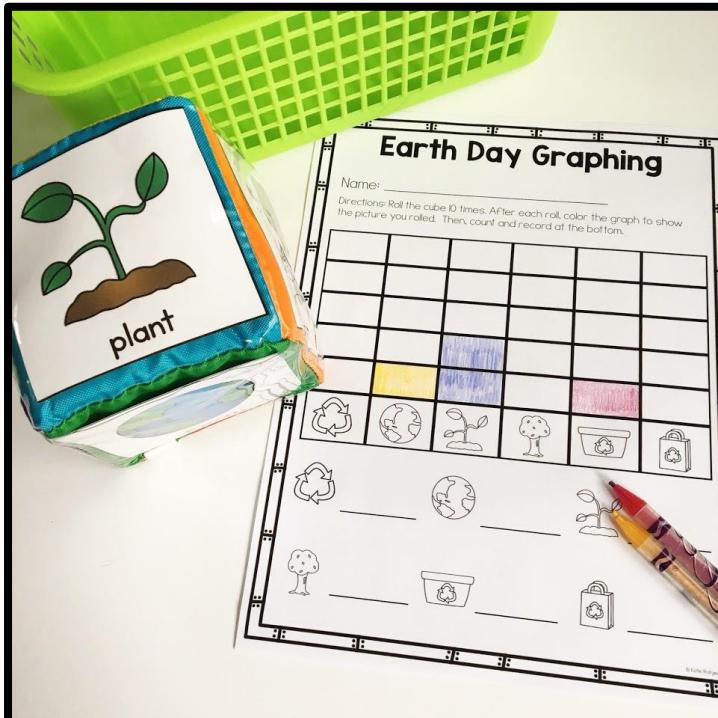
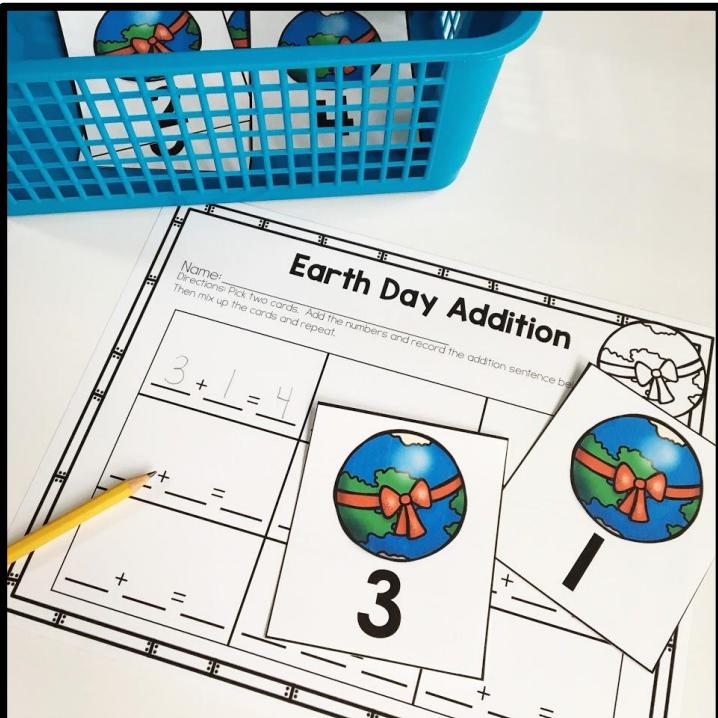


Earth Day

Exploration Stations



By Katie Roltgen

About this Resource:

This is a set of 15 activities that can be used for Earth Day exploration stations or centers. Each activity has an Earth Day-related theme. There are five literacy activities, five math activities, and five science and/or fine motor activities.

Most of the activities include a corresponding practice page that is optional.

I also included student instruction cards.

Several of the activities include a black-and-white version.

Earth Day Centers or Exploration Stations:

Literacy:

Page 6: Earth Day Letter or Sight Word Cards
Page 34: Earth Day Vocabulary Cards
Page 40: Beginning Digraph Sort
Page 46: Save the Earth Sentences
Page 53: Earth Day Picture-Prompted Writing

Math:

Page 56: Earth Day Ten Frame Cards
Page 79: Earth Day Roll and Graph
Page 85: Recyclable 3-D Objects Build and Sort
Page 93: Roll and Add
Page 96: Earth Day Addition

Science, Sensory, and Fine Motor

Page 100: Trash or Recycling Sort
Page 106: Plant a Forest Sequencing and Sensory Bin
Page 111: Ocean Clean-Up Sensory Bin
Page 113: Earth Cut and Punch Cards
Page 115: Colorful Recycling Transfer Activity

The literacy and math stations each include a corresponding activity page or recording page.

Page 118: Student Instruction Cards

- Print these on cardstock. Cut in half to create two cards and laminate.

Materials Needed:

Salt/sand tray for letter and word writing

Magnetic letters

Mini cookie sheet (magnetic)

Plastic linking cubes

Playdough in various colors

Two dice

Plastic tub or bin

Plastic tongs or tweezers

Dry black beans

Plastic mini trees and forest animals

Water beads (ocean-colored)

Objects for ocean clean-up bin

Pom-pom balls in the following colors: red, orange, yellow, green, blue, and purple

Student scissors

Single hole puncher

Dry-erase markers

Containers to store the activities

Cardstock and printer paper

Laminator and laminating pouches

Optional:

Plastic spinner

Pocket cube

Mini trash and recycling bins

Plastic child-sized goggles

Earth Day Letter Cards OR Sight Word Cards

About this Activity:

Students will write letters or sight words in a sand or salt tray.

There are optional corresponding activity pages. The sight word page is editable so you can change the words.



How to Prepare:

Choose either the letter cards OR the sight word cards. Choose the color or black-and-white version. The sight word cards are editable in Adobe. If you're unable to edit, please save the file to your computer and open the file in Adobe.

Print the cards you want to use on cardstock. Cut out and laminate for durability. I like to include a pencil so students can write in the sand with the eraser end.

If you don't want to use a salt or sand tray, students can write on mini whiteboards.

Earth Day Vocabulary Cards

About this Activity:

Students will build Earth Day vocabulary words using magnetic letters.

There is a corresponding vocabulary page and it is optional.



How to Prepare:

Choose the color or black-and white version. Print the vocabulary cards on cardstock. Cut out and laminate for durability.

Alternatives to magnetic letters:

- *Write the words on mini whiteboards
- *Build the words with letter tiles
- *Print two sets and create a memory/matching activity

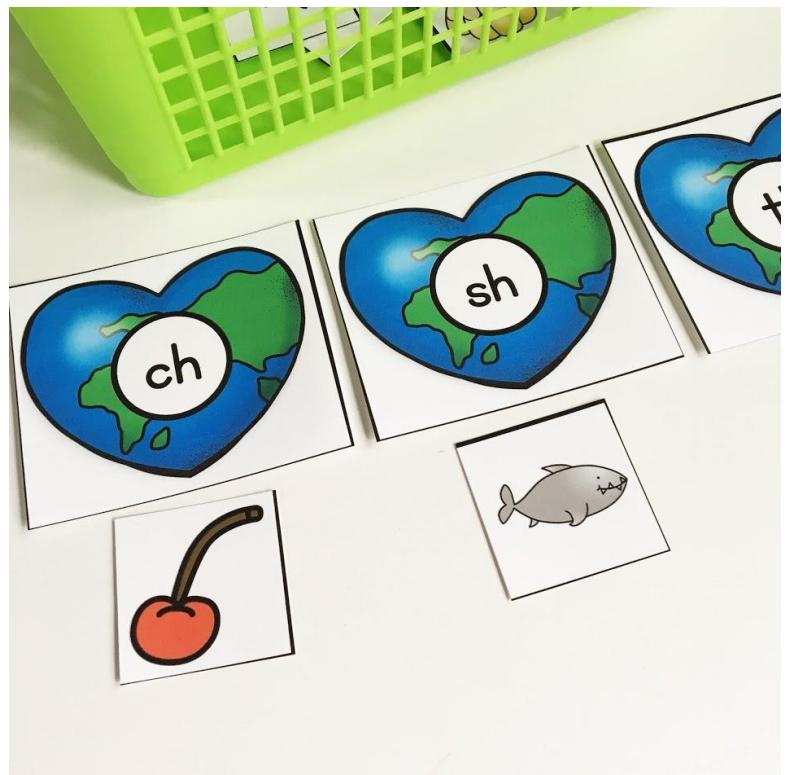
Beginning Digraph Sort

About this Activity:

Students will sort the pictures based on their beginning digraph sounds.

This activity works great in a pocket chart!

There is a corresponding activity page and it is optional.



How to Prepare:

Choose the color or black-and white version. Print the activity cards on cardstock. Cut out and laminate for durability.

Save the Earth Sentences

About this Activity:

Students will build sentences. The cards are color-coded and there is a picture that matches each sentence.

This activity works great in a pocket chart!

There is a corresponding activity page and it is optional.

How to Prepare:

Print the cards on cardstock. Cut out and laminate for durability.



Earth Day Picture-Prompted Writing

About this Activity:

Students will choose one of the pictures. They will write about the picture.

How to Prepare:

Print the picture cards on cardstock. Cut out and laminate for durability.



Earth Day Ten Frame Cards

About this Activity:

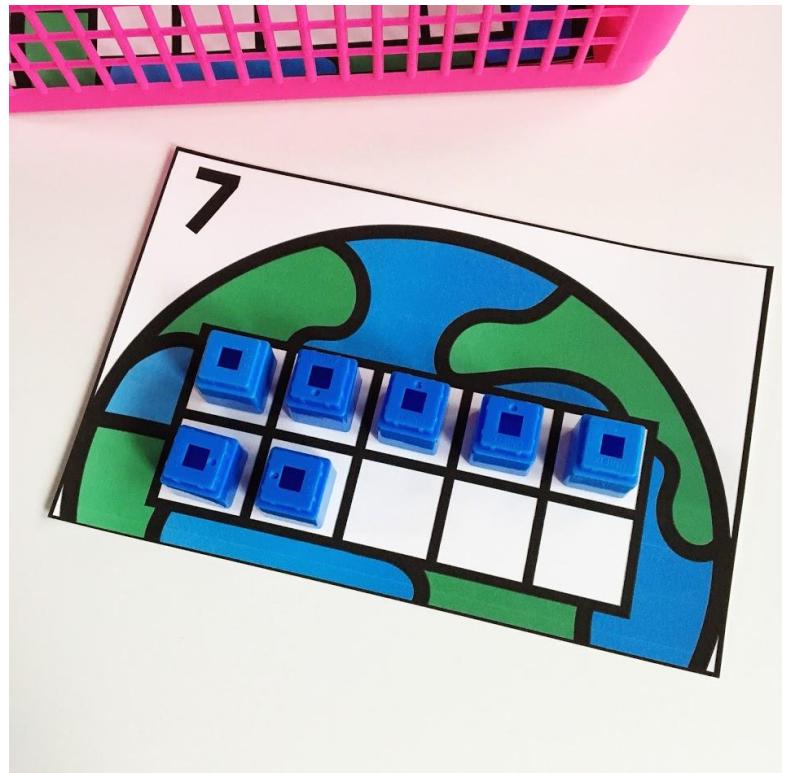
Students will use plastic linking cubes or another small manipulative to show each number on the ten frames.

There are cards available for numbers 1-20. You can pick and choose which cards you want or you can use all of the cards.

There are two optional corresponding practice pages.

How to Prepare:

Choose the color or black-and-white version. Print the ten frame cards on cardstock. Cut out and laminate for durability.



Earth Day Roll and Graph

About this Activity:

Students will roll a pocket cube or a cube that you assemble. They will roll 10 times and graph the result of each roll. Then they will count and record at the bottom of the page.



How to Prepare:

Choose the color or black-and-white version. Print the pocket cube cards or print the cube shape on cardstock and assemble it. Provide students with a copy of the graphing page.

Recyclable 3-D Objects Build and Sort

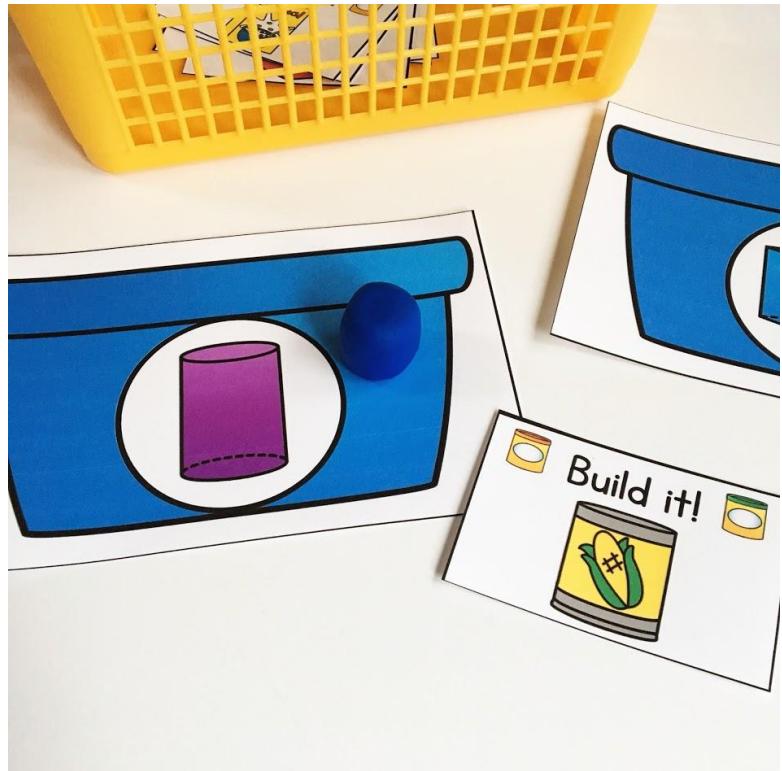
About this Activity:

Students will pick a “Build it!” card and build the object out of playdough. Then they will sort each object onto the recycling bin mats according to the type of 3-D shape.

There is an optional corresponding practice page.

How to Prepare:

Choose the color or black-and-white version. Print the cards and mats on cardstock and laminate for durability.



Roll and Add

About this Activity:

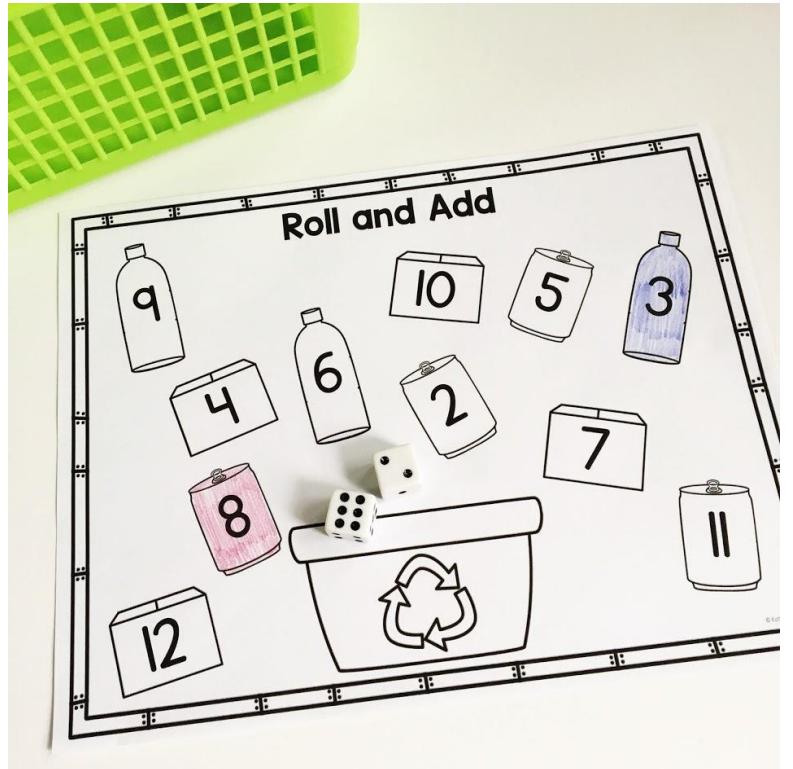
Students will roll two dice and add the dots. They will color the corresponding number on the page.

This can be used as a partner activity or an independent activity.

There is an optional corresponding addition page.

How to Prepare:

Provide students with a copy of the Roll and Add page.



Earth Day Addition

About this Activity:

Students will draw two of the number cards, record the numbers on their page, and add them together. Then they will mix the number cards up and draw two more. They will repeat this until they have filled up the entire recording page.



How to Prepare:

Choose the color or black-and-white version. Print the number cards on cardstock and laminate for durability.

Trash or Recycling Sort

About this Activity:

Students will sort objects based on whether they belong in the trash bin or the recycle bin. I used two mini plastic bins from Amazon, but I also provided trash and recycle sorting mats that you can use instead!



Please Note:

This activity does not address composting. Therefore, the food items will go in the trash. Additionally, recycling and trash regulations vary by region so you may need to substitute or omit items.

How to Prepare:

Choose the color or black-and-white version. Print the object cards (and trash and recycle mats if you're using them) on cardstock and laminate for durability.

NOTE: If you own my April Morning Work Tubs pack, this activity is the same as the trash and recycling sort in that pack.

Plant a Forest Sequencing and Sensory Bin

About this Activity:

Students will plant a forest in this sensory bin! I included a plastic trowel, miniature trees, and forest animals in my bin. I also created “planting a tree” sequencing cards. There is a numbered version and a non-numbered version.

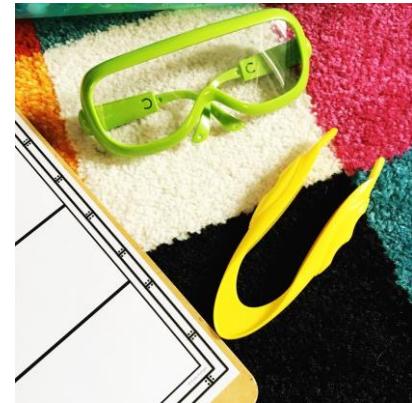


How to Prepare:

Sequencing Cards: Choose the color or black-and-white version. Print the cards on cardstock and laminate for durability.

Sensory Bin: I created my bin with the following materials: dry black beans, plastic trowel (you can also use other kids’ gardening tools), miniature trees, and plastic miniature forest animals.

Ocean Clean-Up Sensory Bin



About this Activity:

This sensory bin allows students to practice cleaning up pollution from the ocean. I placed water beads in a large plastic tub and added plastic miniature ocean animals. Then I added common objects that pollute water. I included kids' goggles and tweezers for cleaning the "pollution". There is an Ocean Clean-Up recording page you can include with the activity.

How to Prepare:

Recording Page: Print enough copies for your students.

Sensory Bin: I included: water beads, plastic miniature ocean animals, kids' goggles, jumbo plastic tweezers, and "pollution" (plastic cups, plastic straws, plastic spoons, milk jug lids, plastic baggies, and soda can six-pack plastic rings).

Earth Cut and Punch Cards

About this Activity:

Students will cut out around the shape and use a single hole-punch to punch on the dots around the shape.



How to Prepare:

Print the activity on printer paper or cardstock. Cut the page to create four pictures per page. You can use different colors or print on white.

Extension: You can provide pieces of yarn or shoelaces and students can lace their picture. If you choose this object, I suggest printing the cards on cardstock.

Colorful Recycling Transfer Activity

About this Activity:

Students will sort pom-poms or beads onto the cards. Since this activity is simple, I suggest including jumbo tweezers to add a fine motor component. You can have students spin to determine what color to sort or they can sort their own way.



How to Prepare:

Print the sorting cards on cardstock. Cut out and laminate for durability. If you're using the spinner, print it on cardstock and laminate it. I hot-glued a plastic spinner onto mine, but you can also use a pencil and paper clip as a spinner.

PLUS:

Student Instruction Cards

with Real Photos

Letter Writing

I can
write the
letters.



Roll and Graph

I can roll
and graph.

