

Hi Morrish!

At around this time last year, Ms. Rauthmell and myself would have been organizing the Morrish School Yard clean-up and all the classes and staff would have made it happen! Though it might be fraught with too many issues to ask our Morrish students to clean up a patch of green near them, here are some brief, positive ideas (at this time we need encouragement and inspiration) for acknowledging Earth Day this upcoming Wednesday, April 22nd. I am sure you all have many ideas and resources around this topic, please share if you do!

5 Ideas for Earth Day and beyond!

1. Maybe the most obvious...visit the Earth Day site at <https://earthday.ca/> and become informed!
2. While hard to do with Distance Learning...try a day/hour/time interval of minimizing power use (e.g. turn off lights in some rooms, hang clothes to dry, lower thermostat). More ideas can be found at <https://www.directenergy.com/blog/8-ways-to-help-kids-conserve-energy-summer/>
3. Take a moment to appreciate the Earth through a walk, a moment in the backyard or even looking out the window at the clouds...can you name the different kinds of clouds? Visit <https://www.lakesuperior.com/the-lake/natural-world/how-to-identify-cloud-types/> to check out different cloud types.
4. It never gets old, we can all aim to reduce, reuse and recycle. Great Canadian David Suzuki has some ideas at <https://davidsuzuki.org/queen-of-green/how-to-go-zero-waste/> and also try <https://www.naturespath.com/en-us/blog/19-activities-kids-learn-recycling/>.
5. Read about an inspiring and local GTA Grade 6 girl named Lily Jones who won a chance to be Mayor of Markham-Stouffville for a day in March because of her well-written essay which included great ideas for environmental sustainability. And oh yes, I've known Lily since she was a baby so I can't help but sing her praises: Her entire essay is included on the Markham-Stouffville's Facebook page:

<https://www.yorkregion.com/community-story/9879144-grade-6-stouffville-student-is-mayor-for-the-day/>

<https://www.facebook.com/wstouffville/posts/yesterday-was-mayor-for-the-day-and-we-had-the-honour-of-having-lily-jones-of-ba/2864466583610157/>

Ms. Pollari