
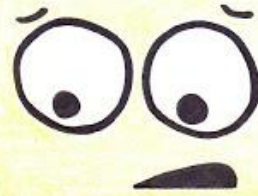

Earth Day!

— History and why recycling isn't
the solution to the problem —

**Full disclosure: Miss Johnson is super passionate about this topic and Earth Day is her favorite holiday.
So many links... You have been warned...**



Seriously? Just one day a year? That's cold. I get a day every single week. Sorry, buddy.



Beatrice the Biologist



Earth Day Is April 22nd!

Other comic [here](#)



History of Earth Day

So Earth Day is about
pushing for change
and greater protection
for our planet.

How to Celebrate Earth Day?

1. Plant Something because plants do so much to help us ([benefits](#))
2. Make a plan to walk or ride your bike more this year
3. Reduce your carbon footprint (ways to do so listed [here](#))
4. Feel passionate about this topic? Join the movement with youth climate activist organizations ([here](#), [here](#), or [here](#))
5. Watch some programs to learn more ([here](#) or [here](#))
6. Make a plan to use less plastic in your life (info on plastics [here](#))
7. Eat more plant based food and less meat ([factsheet](#))
8. And most importantly: Go outside to enjoy it!

But Miss Johnson, I thought I could just recycle things and that would be good enough for Earth Day!

**Fun fact about recycling, it usually isn't done right.
Do you really know what is recyclable and what isn't??**

Check out your city's recycling requirements

Phoenix recycling list [here](#)
(recycling website [here](#))

Chandler recycling list [here](#)

Tempe recycling list [here](#)

Maricopa recycling info [here](#)

Bottomline - Just because it has a recycle triangle at the bottom DOESN'T mean it's actually recyclable!

There is a term called “wishcycling” and it means putting things in the recycle bin hoping it's recyclable.

Putting things in the recycle bin NOT on those lists causes the whole load to have to be put into the trash, or breaks the recycling machine causing major problems.

Good article on this [here](#) and a podcast about it [here](#)

More Recycling

What if I have something that isn't on that list and I don't want to just throw it away?

Try to find a place that takes that item. Plastic bags are NOT recyclable in the blue bin, but Target, Walmart, grocery stores, etc. have bins to take them at the front of the store.

Have something random that you want to find somewhere to recycle? Check out the recycling search [here](#) to find a place! Or [here](#) for a mail in program.

Bottomline

Reducing waste is WAY more helpful than relying on recycling waste.

Ways to reduce waste found [here](#), [here](#), [here](#), [here](#), and a massive list [here](#).

Now that you have more
knowledge, what are
three things you can do
for Earth Day this year?

(answer in Google Classroom as well)

(I hope you don't just say recycle :D)

So now that we are all sad about recycling...

