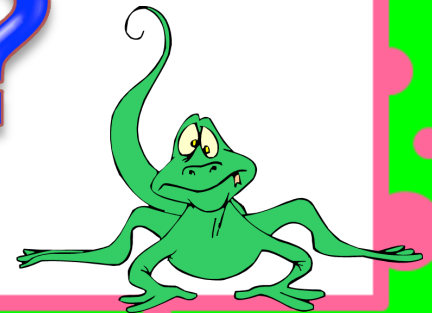


What is Earth Day?



Earth Day is a global event.

Activities and events are held each year as a show of support for Earth's environment.



Earth Day is
celebrated each
year on April 22.



Earth Day is celebrated worldwide in over 192 countries.

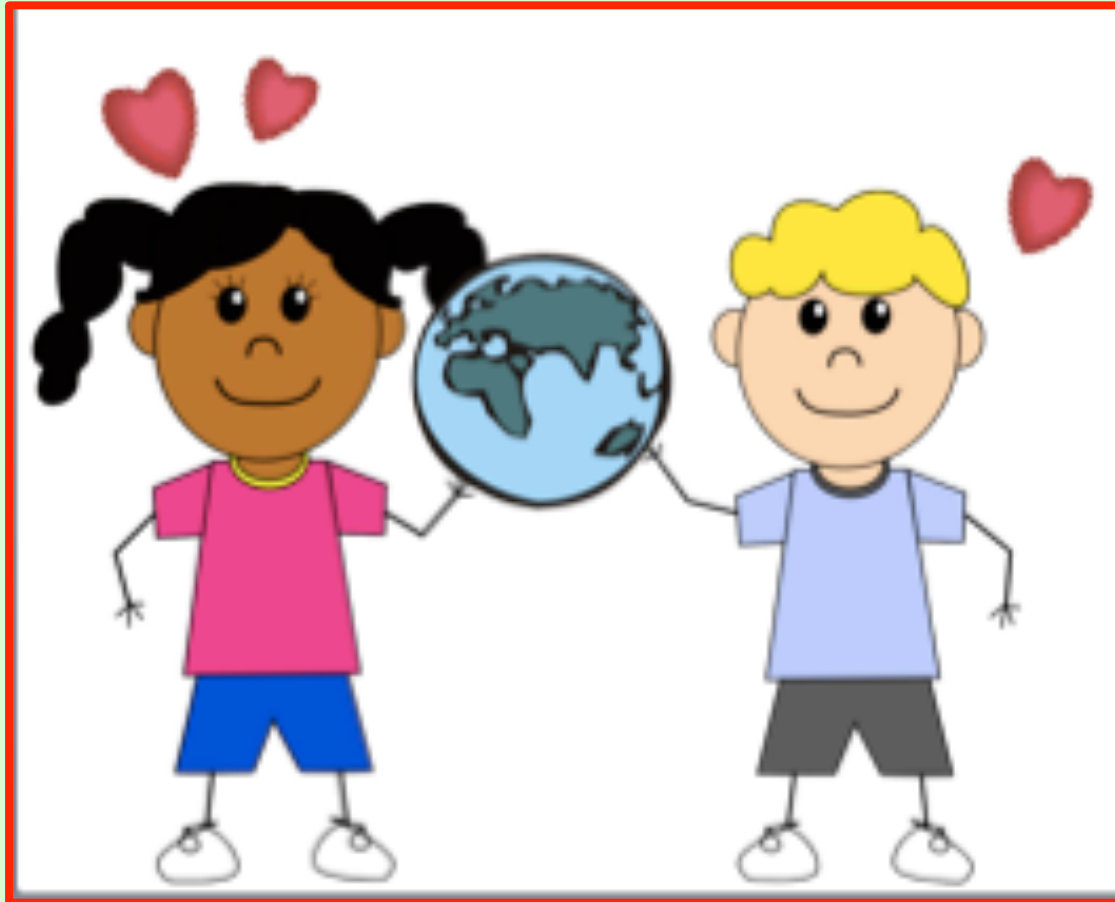


The purpose is to show global support for the protection of our environment.

The first Earth Day was held on April
22, 1970.



Why was Earth Day started?




In the late 1960's and into 1970, most Americans paid little attention to the damage being done to our environment.





Most Americans drove very large cars that got very poor gas mileage. Not only were petroleum products being used excessively, but automobile emissions were polluting the air.



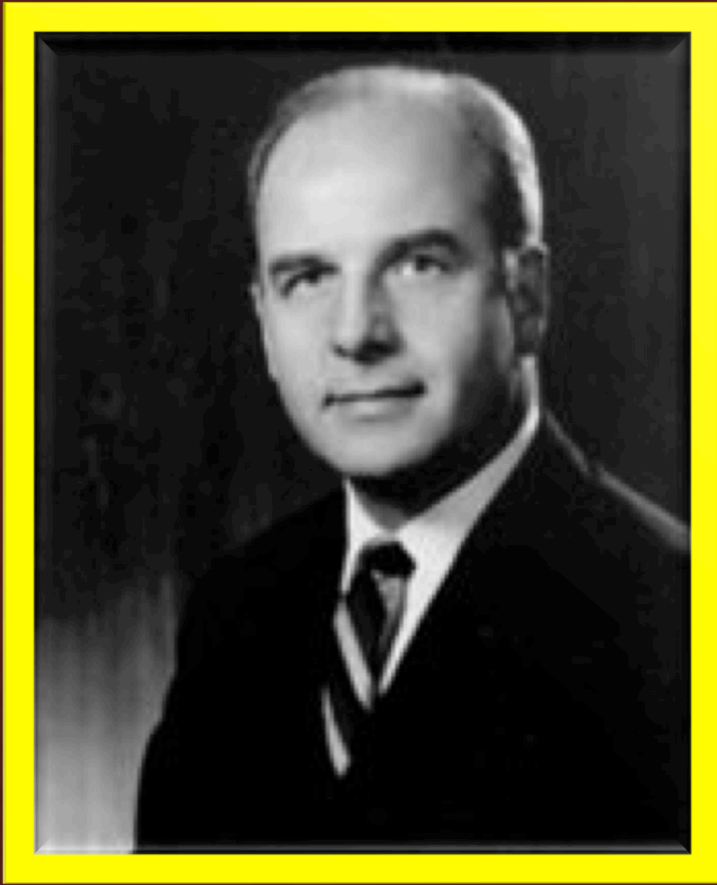
A photograph of an industrial facility, likely a power plant or refinery, with numerous dark smokestacks. Each stack is emitting a thick, white plume of smoke or steam that rises into the sky. The sky is a clear, bright blue. The smokestacks are arranged in a row, and the plumes are dense and billowing. The overall scene conveys a sense of industrial activity and environmental impact.

Many industries paid little attention to the damage they were doing to the environment.

Earth Day 1970 was organized to promote awareness for our environment, and to encourage all people to take better care of the environment.



Gaylord Nelson, a US Senator from Wisconsin, proposed and organized the first Earth Day in 1970. As a result, on April 20, 1970, 20 million Americans took up the environmental cause and protested.





Thousands of schools, colleges and universities participated in the first Earth Day. The participants led peaceful demonstrations in favor of environmental reform.

Americans protested
against oil spills....



...polluting industries and power plants.....





...the dumping of raw sewage...



....the dumping of
toxins, such as
pesticides and other
toxic wastes, into
streams and
rivers.....



.....the loss of wilderness and deforestation.....



.....and the extinction of many wildlife species.



The first Earth Day led to the creation of the United States Environmental Protection Agency and the passage of the Clean Air, Clean Water, and Endangered Species Acts.



In 1990 Earth Day
went global,
mobilizing 200
million people in 141
countries



In 1995 President Bill Clinton awarded Senator Nelson the Presidential Medal of Freedom -- the highest honor given to civilians in the United States -- for his role as Earth Day founder.



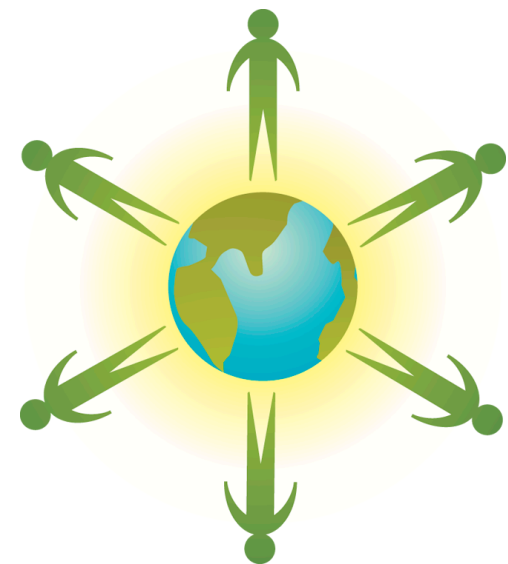
*To Senator Gaylord Nelson
With best wishes, and warm
memories of this great day*

Bill Clinton





In 2010, on the 40th anniversary of Earth Day, the Earth Day Network launched a “Billion Acts of Green.” Participants were asked to register their “acts of green” and state what they were doing to protect the environment.





**By April 22,
2012, one billion
actions had been
recorded by the
people of the
world.**



The Earth Day
Network has now set
as its goal, 2 billion
“acts of green.”

You can record your
actions here: [http://
act.earthday.org/
index.html](http://act.earthday.org/index.html)

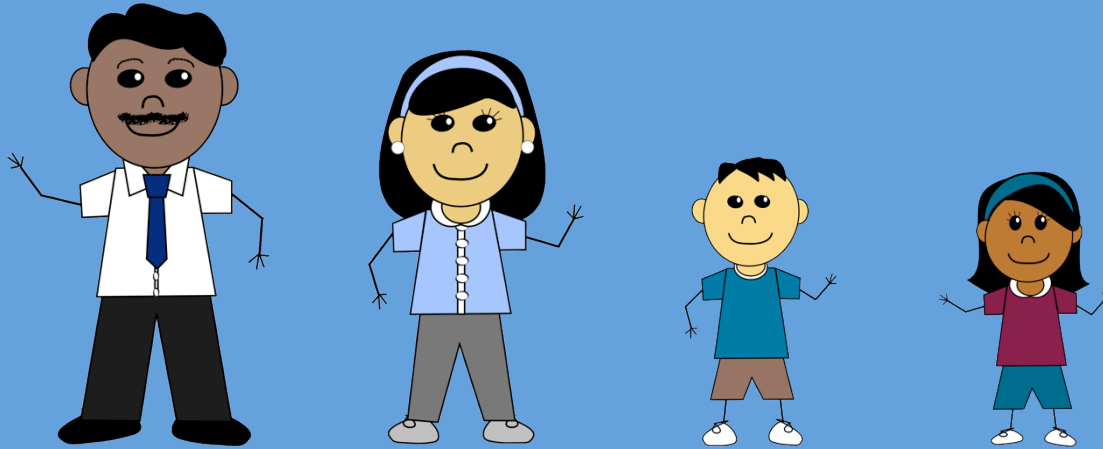
What is
your goal
for Earth
Day?

What can you
do to protect
the Earth?



Happy Earth Day!

These adorable little people.....



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