



Backyard and Beyond

5 Ways to Celebrate Earth Day Every Day

At Discovery Museum, we believe that when children and families spend time outdoors and grow their love of nature, they are taking important first steps toward ultimately raising their awareness of broader issues that impact the natural world, including sustainability and climate change.

Here are 5 ways you can celebrate Earth Day every day and connect with the natural world no matter where you are:

1. **Be an observer.** Step outside and use your senses as you sharpen your powers of observation. How many trees are on your street? What sounds do you hear when you're in your backyard? Try our [Nature Scavenger Hunt](#), or for a bit more of a challenge, see what [Patterns in Nature](#) you can find. (Found at <https://www.discoveryacton.org/education/discovery-home>)



2. **Collect data.** Create a simple [Nature Journal](#) to take with you as you explore your backyard or neighborhood. You can use your nature journal to practice writing about or drawing your observations. Every time you notice and record details like number, color, shape, or size, you've tracked a point of data! Keeping a nature journal can help you see changes in your data over time. (Found at <https://www.discoveryacton.org/education/discovery-home>)

3. **Brush-up on the difference between weather and climate.** An important part of beginning to understand climate change is knowing the difference between weather and climate. This great [video](#) from our friends at NASA can help you think about the relationship between the two. (<https://climatekids.nasa.gov/weather-climate/>)



4. **Become a Citizen Scientist!** Visit the [GLOBE Observer](#) or [SciStarter](#) websites for ideas on how you can help provide data in support of climate research. (<https://observer.globe.gov/> and <https://scistarter.org/>)
5. **Reduce, reuse, and other everyday actions.** Now more than ever, we need to advocate for big, ambitious solutions to address the effects of climate change. At the same time, it's important that we continue to practice individual, everyday actions to reduce our own environmental impact. Keep turning off the lights when you leave the room or shutting off the water while you brush your teeth. Keep choosing reusable water bottles or food containers over single-use, throw away options. How are you an environmental advocate or climate crusader in your daily life?