

Anchorage School District Earth Week Challenge

April 20th – 24th 2020



What is the Earth Week Challenge?

Earth Day—Wednesday, April 22—is a day worth celebrating. This year marks the 50th anniversary of Earth Day. While the COVID-19 pandemic does not allow us to hold an in-person event, it remains important to create ways to come together as a community to recognize this milestone and look toward the future. The theme for Earth Day 2020 is climate action. The enormous challenge – but also the vast opportunities – of action on climate change have distinguished the issue as the most pressing topic for the 50th anniversary. Climate change represents the biggest challenge to the future.

As a community, we have seen how the importance of physical distancing to “flatten the curve” which can really make a difference when everyone participates. In the same way, practicing sustainability and making small changes can really add up and create big changes for our community and environment. We are in this together! This year to celebrate Earth Day from home, let’s play bingo! The goal of this challenge is to partake in quarantine-friendly activities (listed on the next page). Challenge yourself to black out the board!



Share some photos with your best Earth Week bingo in action with the hashtag #ASDEarthWeek and you will automatically be entered for a chance to win a gift card! You can also take a [pledge](#) to commit to an action for Earth Day and upload photos there to participate in the giveaway.

There is so much you can do to help protect and restore our planet, from joining a cleanup or virtual climate strike, to taking part in the world’s largest citizen science initiative. There are many more ways to practice sustainability this Earth Day and more importantly, all days! ASD Recycling has compiled activities and ideas for students of all ages to engage in sustainability and learn about more about the environment! Take a look at <https://www.asdk12.org/recycling>.

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it is the only thing that ever has."

~Margaret Mead

ASD Organics Recap

Starting in January, the Anchorage School District (ASD) in conjunction with Solid Waste Services (SWS) and Moffitt Farms, began a food scrap collection and composting pilot program that ran through Spring Break this year. During that time, 11 schools collected 12,460 pounds of food scraps during lunch that were kept out of the landfill! Great job!



Why collect organics? Food scraps are among the largest contributors of greenhouse gases generated at landfills. From a municipal perspective, it is important to remove food scraps from the waste stream to reduce emission and add longevity to the landfill! According to the EPA, more food reaches the landfill than any other material in daily trash, approximately 22%. Take a look at what Anchorage is doing to extend the life of the landfill! [<link>](#)

Are you wondering what you can do from home to help reduce food waste? Compost food scraps, meal plan, grow your own food, etc!

Earth Day BINGO

How many can you cross off?

<p>Set up a compost system</p> 	<p>Read the Anchorage Sustainability Climate Action Plan</p>	<p>Film a recycling trick shot</p> 	<p>Learn the local recycling! Find the site nearest you.</p>	 <p>Start a garden</p>
<p>Participate in a virtual climate strike on Earth day</p>	 <p>Make a plant-based dish</p>	<p>Create an Earth day poster</p>	<p>Enjoy the outdoors</p> 	<p>Support a local farmer</p> 
<p>Follow ASD Recycling on social media</p> 	<p>Watch the Story of Stuff</p>	<p>FREE</p>  <p>SPACE</p>	<p>Write a haiku about climate change</p>	<p>Become a citizen scientist</p>
<p>Make art out of trash</p> 	<p>Take a KTVA weather lab class</p>	<p>Calculate your family's carbon footprint</p> 	 <p>Pick up litter</p>	<p>Repair or repurpose something</p> 
<p>Make a zero waste swap</p> 	<p>Learn about an environmental issue</p>	<p>Send ASD Recycling a question!</p>	<p>Make a sustainable pledge (i.e. reduce plastic, compost)</p>	<p>Create a meal plan to help reduce food waste</p> 

Tag @ASDRecycling or use #ASDEarthWeek to participate in giveaway! You can also submit photos [here](#).

