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STUDENT EDITION  
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WEB EDITION

As people across the globe stayed home to stop the spread of the coronavirus, nature got a breather. Air cleaned up, smog stopped choking people—there was a sudden drop in carbon emissions, reduction in NO<sub>2</sub> concentration in atmosphere, and the world witnessed the beautiful side of our planet...



While humans were confined to their homes, animals roamed around freely on the otherwise busy roads. A Nilgai was spotted in Noida during the lockdown. Penguins were also seen on the streets of Capetown



Rivers like Ganga and Yamuna, which couldn't be cleaned despite spending crores, looked sparkling clear, thanks to a blanket reduction in industrial pollutants, and less human activity



Pink flamingoes which are a treat to watch, returned to Mumbai beach in huge numbers. The Bombay Natural History Society stated that their number is 25% more than it was in the last year



Pictures of the Himalayan range visible from Jalandhar went viral, courtesy clean air. The Himalayan range is more than 100 miles away from Punjab; when spotted, its sight left many in awe!

Photo: Getty Images

THE BIGGEST LESSON FOR HUMANITY

Earth is HEALING...

Let us PLEDGE to make it

GREENER, CLEANER AND BRIGHTER



Celebs' wish FOR THE EARTH



Actor Bhumi Pednekar is creating an awareness about the World Environment Day through her initiative, 'Climate Warrior'. Her campaign urge people to share 'One wish for the Earth'

My #OneWishForTheEarth this World Environment Day is to conserve water. Water is one of the most critical things in life, and we must be careful with how we use it. It's time to shut your taps and open your minds!



KARAN JOHAR, filmmaker

Climate change is a grave reality that all of us are facing. The simplest act is that of planting tree



AKSHAYA KUMAR, actor

Let us pledge to be 'climate-conscious' to protect nature



AMITABH BACHCHAN, actor

My wish for the Earth is I wish that we treat the plants and animal species—as just as significant a part of nature—as the human species. I wish that we would not treat them as a means to an end, because at the end of the day... we are all one

ANUSHKA SHARMA, actor

I PLEDGE...

TO SPARINGLY USE AIR CONDITIONER



For thousands of years, we've been exploiting the Earth's resources and it has been bountiful. While we continue to use its resources, we ignore the fact the nature wants something in return: our care and consideration. So, on this Environment Day, I pledge not to use the air conditioner 24/7. I understand it is extremely warm, but by dousing a cloth in water and patting it on your face and other parts of the body when you feel hot, can be tried to cool off. Besides, I will urge our house help and elders to use water judiciously for cleaning the house—use a tub of water to clean the utensils, rather than using running water. Moreover, I will try to use the peels of vegetables and fruits as compost, and plant trees.

HINA NAELA, class XII, GD Goenka public school, Lucknow

TO MAKE OPTIMUM USE OF 3'R'S: REDUCE, REUSE AND RECYCLE

The global pandemic and the lockdown has made the three R's—Reduce, Reuse, Recycle even more significant. So, I pledge to make the best use of the available resources and utilise them wisely. Besides, as our PM has urged each one to plant a tree, my brother and I will plant curry leaf saplings and 'sambar cheera' plants on our balcony garden.

DEVAYANI UNNIKRISHNAN, class VII, Rajagiri Public School, Ernakulam



TO SPREAD AWARENESS ON MINIMAL USE OF ELECTRONIC GOODS

The climate change that seemed like an unstoppable force till last year, is now fixing itself, courtesy the lockdown. I promise the next generation that I will provide a healthy and a pollution-free Earth by limiting the use of electrical gadgets to minimise carbon footprint.

KHYATI TAPADIA, class XII, DCIS, Ahmedabad



TO REDUCE CARBON FOOTPRINT

I pledge to make green and sustainable choice and reduce carbon footprint. The lockdown has given us time to ponder about how each of us can contribute and put our best step forward to conserve our environment. This World Environment Day, I plan to plant at least 30 plants on my terrace and in my locality.

DEV P SETH, class X, Venkateshwar Global School, New Delhi



TAKE CARE OF PLANTS AND ANIMALS

Plants and animals too have a life and it is our duty to treat them with love and care. So, let us spread awareness on a large scale on the need to act responsibly towards nature, because spending time with nature inspires creativity, boosts happiness, and makes you responsible.

DIYA LOKESH, class VII, DPS North, Bengaluru



WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY FACTS

**THE DAY:** June 5 is celebrated as the World Environment Day across the globe to focus on environment-related issues. The first Environment Day was observed in 1974, with the theme, 'Only One Earth'



**THEME 2020:** The theme for the World Environment Day 2020 is biodiversity—a concern that is both urgent and existential, says the UN. Recent events—from bushfires in Brazil, US, and Australia to locust infestations across East Africa—and now, a global pandemic—demonstrate the interdependence of humans and the webs of life, in which they exist. The theme focuses on 'time for nature', and providing the essential infrastructure that supports life on Earth and human development.

3 ENVIRONMENTAL GAMES THAT TEACH KIDS ABOUT EARTH, ECOLOGY AND CONSERVATION



Coral Reef, Tinybop Inc.

In Coral Reef, players explore an interactive ocean environment, discovering how organisms like sharks, sea turtles, and jellyfish live together in an underwater ecosystem. It helps in learning foundational science concepts by observing and answering questions through interactions with undersea life.

WWF Free Rivers, WWF

The sole augmented reality (AR) game helps in observing and interacting with diverse river habitats in the comfort of their own home. The game immerses players in simulated environments based on the Himalayan mountains, South American grasslands, etc

Habitactics, Zachtronics / Touch Press Games

Habitactics is a mind-bending ecology puzzle game that teaches how different species affect each other and the success of their ecosystems. Players are required to explore an array of diverse environments, like rainforests and oceans, and solve puzzles

READ

READ THE WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY 2020 PRACTICAL GUIDE ([https://p.widencdn.net/e2n0wj/WED\\_SimpleToolkit](https://p.widencdn.net/e2n0wj/WED_SimpleToolkit)) to gain a comprehensive insight into why the preservation of biodiversity is essential to mankind's survival.

There are others as well: <http://www.un.org/en/observances/environment-day/take-action>

Compiled by NITYA SHUKLA

TEST YOURSELF

TAKE A QUIZ ON: <https://www.worldenvironmentday.global/did-you-know/take-quiz> to test your knowledge. Check out your knowledge on biodiversity, and learn more about the intricate services nature provides us.

LEARN

- Find out what your city and the government is doing to protect the environment.
- Join Earth School and take part in the 30 lessons on the environment hosted by TED-Ed and curated by some of the best nature teachers in the world at <http://ed.ted.com/earth-school>
- Get information on how you can help fight climate change through the United Nations' Act Now campaign, [www.un.org/en/actnow/](http://www.un.org/en/actnow/)
- Learn about plastic pollution and how it affects marine species through UNEP's Clean Seas campaign, [cleanseas.org](http://www.cleanseas.org)

Here's HOW YOU CAN MAKE THIS ENVIRONMENT DAY MORE MEANINGFUL



PARTICIPATE

**EVENTS SCHEDULE:** Join a plethora of online events, including wild earth live safari, Instagram talks on waste management, and specially designed escape rooms, etc at <https://www.worldenvironmentday.global/latest/schedule>

**PHOTO CHALLENGE:** CITIES4FORESTS has launched the Forest Challenge. Join the photo contest and plant a tree through [cities4forests.com/forest-challenge/](https://cities4forests.com/forest-challenge/)

VOICE IT

Head to UNEP's social media feeds; share with the world why action for nature is so critical. Use the #ForNature and #WorldEnvironmentDay hashtags. Tag a couple of people/organisations/companies in your reply; ask them to join the conversation

ACT

- Go for an eco-friendly diet. Beans, nuts and soy offer high-protein alternatives to animal products
- Travel less. Limit your travel when things go back to normal after the coronavirus pandemic
- Leave some wild green spaces in your garden where pollinators and ground dwelling insects can thrive
- Avoid plastic. Plastic wastes that end up in nature is often mistaken for food by animals, both on land and at sea. For many species, it can cause severe injury and death
- Recycle as much as you can. Plant a tree on your balcony or backyard
- Minimise the use of household chemicals that can have toxic effects on soil and groundwater.
- Encourage and use organic stuff